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A MODERN DAY EZEKIEL

Could an encounter in 1979 be
a mirroring of the Biblical vision?

**ALSO INSIDE: ENCOUNTERS WITH A DJINN
PLUS: THE ALUX / ROBERT BIGELOW**



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Hello folks,

Well hello all once again, for a change I'm going to mention someone else's work, in this case an investigative journalist called Annie Jacobsen. She has written a number of quite hefty tomes and I came across her work a few months ago while researching material for an article, in this case the book was called *The Pentagon's Brain* and it concerns what The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) were developing for the US military. It seems that they are very concerned about the development of artificial intelligence as it applies to hunter/killer robots, because if there was no way to shut them down we could be finished as a race. Anyway, as a result of reading this book I bought (yes, actually bought) two more books by the same author. One is called *Area 51* and the other is called *Phenomena*. All her books are written using actual interviews and declassified material, some of which was obtained under the FOIA, from CIA, NSA and FBI files. This is useful, but she also mentions the number of old files that have not yet been declassified and that really dangles a carrot and makes the reader ask why? Actually info obtained under the FOIA, both in the USA and here in the UK, has one flaw, any work that was not conducted by the government and was hived off to a private company, it is not covered by the FOIA and they don't have to tell you anything about it.

The book looks at the Star-Gate project and MK Ultra (remote-viewing and mind control etc) and it also reveals what the CIA really thought of Uri Geller, because by their lights he was not a fake despite the continual scorn poured on him by the likes of the late James Randi. In fact Geller's services are still occasionally called upon by MOSSAD, the Israeli intelligence service. Also, the remote viewing results obtained with Ingo Swann, Pat Price and Joe McMoneagle are truly mind blowing (especially Pat Price, what he could do was almost unbelievable) and that is from the declassified material, so as already mentioned what is in the stuff that is still classified? The CIA and other agencies in US intelligence were really panicking, because the USSR was doing the same thing, literally nothing was 'secret'. There was a belief that remote-viewing involved a biological variation on the ELF frequencies used to communicate with submerged submarines (still classified). However, perhaps this has more to do with the 'oneness' we all share than anything electromagnetic: a bit like the phenomenon of quantum non-locality. The Area 51 book, well, yes, the UFO angle is there, but it's the other stuff that went on there (much of it still classified) is likewise astonishing. Both books really are well worth a read.

Brian Allan
UK Editor

CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Brett I. Cohen, Ph.D., Steve Mera, Bill Mack, Brian Allan,
John J. Ventre, Joe Stewart, Paul Dale Roberts

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PUBLISHER
MAPIT

EDITOR IN CHIEF (UK):
Brian Allan
Paratec7@aol.com

DESIGN
S4 Digital Press

COVER IMAGE
Steven Wong
via Artstation.com

SPANISH EDITOR CONTACT:
Dario Fernandez
dario.alberto.fernandez@gmail.com
www.phenomena-es.com

PHENOMENA MAGAZINE HEAD OFFICE
17, Redburn Road, Baguley,
Wythenshawe, Manchester,
M23 1AH, United Kingdom.

The PM Team
Editors & Distributors Sotiris at STRANGEFILES.ME, Danial Verdon at UREI, Randy at Atlantis Rising Magazine, Dario Fernandez at MDA / My Astronaut Gods. Rockstand Distributor - India: Lavinia Pallotta, Distributor - Italy: Tim at UFOTV, Distributor - Russia: Vision Ovni Argentina. Head Office Distribution Steve Mera & Brian Allan; Reporter Jackie Heighway; Columnist Paul Dale Roberts; Columnist Joe Stewart.

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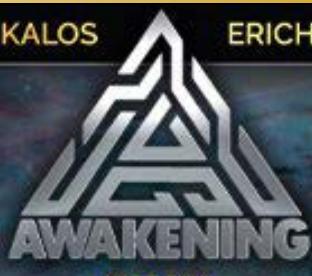
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Magazine CEO Steve Mera presents an unusual UFO case that seems to mirror what the biblical prophet Ezekiel reportedly saw around 597 BC.

In the Book of Ezekiel, the prophet describes some type of flying chariot containing wheels within wheels and powered by angels.

Although Bible historians suggest Ezekiel was speaking symbolically about the terrifying enemies facing Israel, could this be another example of an alien visitation and proof that some type of craft existed? If so... are there any other examples of such profound contact cases?... The answer to that is... 'Yes'!

It was summer of 1979. Lynda Jones a thirty six year old housewife from Didsbury, Manchester was in her kitchen when she received a telephone call from an old friend. Lynda arranged a meeting and over a long leisurely

lunch she and her friend chatted about the old days and lost acquaintances. It wasn't long before Trevor, (Lynda's Husband) had to leave for work. He was on a 2.00pm till 10.00pm evening shift at the local factory. Trevor left his wife and her friend to chat away in the afternoon sun in their back garden, whilst looking keeping an eye on the children Christopher aged five and Lisa aged fifteen. Time quickly passed and Lynda's friend reminded her he had to be on his way before it got dark, as he had arrived on an old bike that had no lights on it. Lynda offered to show him a short-cut home which would take them over the nearby fields. Lynda, her friend and children set off, it was around 7.30pm when they had arrived at Simon's Bridge located near the

River Mersey, in Didsbury. After saying their goodbyes, Lynda and her children headed back, taking their time to look at wild flowers; this was one of Lynda's interests. With her Oxford Dictionary of Wild Flowers in hand they regularly stopped to examine an intriguing flower. There was no rush as Trevor would not be home for at least another couple of hours.

Suddenly Lisa shouted out 'Mum, the Moon is coming towards us'. Lynda turned to see a strange object racing across the sky, travelling towards them. 'It was like the shape of a rugby ball only a lot bigger and was a bright orange in colour' recalled Lynda. It had come into view from behind a crop of trees on the golf course situated on the

other side of the river. 'The object had a spinning effect and it seemed to be travelling towards us at an angle'. 'Get Down!', Lynda shouted out, 'get down in the grass'. As she crouched down in the tall grass with her two children next to her, she braced herself for an explosion, initially thinking it may have been a plane from nearby Manchester airport in trouble or on fire. There was no sound whatsoever. Slowly looking up out of the grass, Lynda saw the strange object pass overhead and then suddenly drop in a vertical motion behind an embankment which was part of the flooding defence for the River Mersey. It was then she realised it was eerily silent, not even the sound of birds nor the traffic from the distant busy roads of Didsbury village.

Lynda and the children stood up taking a few steps towards the embankment, wondering if what ever it was had crashed. Lynda had a compelling urge to move closer to the top of the embankment. First walking then running, she was suddenly stopped dead in her tracks by an amazing sight. There, about 25 yards in front of her, lay an object which she could only describe as biblical looking. 'It was so weird'. Lynda did not know anything about UFOs nor had any interest in the subject. With her children standing beside her, she stared at the object taking in all the detail. 'The object was about sixty feet across and hovering about two or three feet above the ground. It kept disappearing and then re-appearing'. It had had a light on the top of it'. 'It was a bright white light that was somehow separated from the object itself'. Lynda strangely felt drawn to the light, and as she got closer the light got brighter. Then suddenly an orange ball of light appeared from the far side of the object and started to move towards her, it was slowly rotating. 'As I walked towards the object I thought I would soon be looking in at them and watching what they were doing,' said Lynda'.

Suddenly her daughter Lisa shouted out: 'Mum, come back, come back'... The shock of hearing Lisa's voice jolted Lynda back to a terrifying reality. 'I had a feeling of Deja Vu, really strong, then suddenly I realised what I was doing'. I thought 'Oh My God!' 'We're going to die'. Lynda quickly turned and ran, grabbing her children by their hands, almost dragging them down the embankment. When they got to the

The River Mersey, just upstream from Simon's Bridge, Didsbury.
©Phil Champion/Geograph used under Creative Commons license.



bottom Lynda started running so fast that her son Christopher struggled to keep up. 'Oh No!', 'It's there again Mum' screamed Lisa. The object was now travelling alongside them. Lynda was too scared to slow down and picked her son up and carried on running. 'Don't stop' she shouted, 'keep going'. 'Mum look, there are two of them now', Lisa screamed. On the edge of exhaustion, Lynda suppressed the urge to turn around and look. 'Keep going!', screamed Lynda. 'Don't look back Lisa, just keep running' she yelled. As they ran across the grassland, Lynda noticed something really strange. The object was having some sort of odd effect on their surroundings. Lynda noticed that the grass was terribly overgrown at least six feet in height and seemed to be folding down on itself as if it was being pressed down by some force coming from above and revealing an escape route. 'It was the strangest thing I've ever seen'.

Lynda found herself still running when they had reached the edge of their housing estate. 'We never stopped running until we were safe inside our house', said Lynda. Lynda looked up to see Trevor standing there, he said'

'What's wrong, what's wrong with your eyes?' Lynda looked in the mirror and could see that the skin around her eyes was red and scaly. Lisa had run straight upstairs to the bathroom because she had wet herself in fear and Christopher, though shook up, seemed okay. Trevor was concerned. Lynda explained to him what they had seen from start to finish. After which her asked them all to draw a picture of what they had seen. He was later startled to find all the pictures looked identical. Then suddenly, Lynda realised Trevor was home, he should have not been home from work until 10.30pm. 'What time is it?' she asked him. It was now around 10.50pm. Lynda had lost around a hour and a half of her life. She had left their home in Didsbury around 7.30pm and had seen the object around 9.00pm. She had run a good ten minutes yet they had arrived home about 10.40pm???

Lynda would have to wait until the winter of 1980 before discovering more about her experience. In the meantime, Lynda and Trevor told very few people about the incident. The local Manchester International Airport reported nothing out of the ordinary for

“The object was about sixty feet across and hovering about two or three feet above the ground. It kept disappearing.”

that particular day and there seemed to be no other witnesses. Lynda eventually was talked into undergoing a series of hypnotic regression sessions. Each session was apparently recorded onto videotape and produced around ten hours of material. Lynda found the entire experience too disturbing and was so frightened, she refused to view the majority of the video recordings. She said 'I was very upset watching myself under hypnosis'. 'At times I was becoming extremely upset by whatever I thought was happening to me'. 'It was just too much!' However, over the years Lynda had pieced together a vague account of what may have happened to her during the missing one and a half hours, based upon memories during her hypnotic regression sessions and numerous dreams and day visions. Christopher and Lisa also had recalled other events...

'I remember at the point when we had turned to run away from the object, I saw several people running towards the object'. 'These 'people' looked like men, dressed in long dark coats and wearing trilby hats holding what looked like satchels'. 'There was also a strange mist that surrounded them and when they got close to the object, they simply disappeared'. 'Also, the children and I remember seeing another cloud of mist around two or three feet high and in the mist was some more men, all around five feet tall, dressed in a one piece jumpsuit, all carrying something'. Lynda recalled how odd it was that they all looked identical. She then recalled floating or a moving sensation. 'The next thing I remember is being inside a room watching six strange beings coming in'. 'They were human looking, wore dark suits with high necks'. 'They looked oriental; they had slanted eyes, dark hair and a yellow / olive complexion'. 'I seemed to know one of them'. Lynda then went onto report the impression of being physically examined on a table. 'I remember that they put something on my legs and

they went really cold'. 'Every time I tried to see what was going on, a bright light would shine in my eyes'.

Even now... some 35 years later, Lynda still gets frightened about her memories of the event. She refuses to speculate about what was being done to her whilst on the table in the strange room. Over the years since her experience, Lynda, like many other alleged abductees, has suffered from a real life medical condition. She discovered that her menstrual cycle had been affected about a month after her experience. Lynda tried to get on with her life and to forget what happened to her; however she would often find strange markings on her body which would disappear just as quickly as they had appeared. 'The marks would just suddenly appear, but after showing them to Trevor, they would have disappeared before I got to show my doctor'.

'The weirdest thing was a few months after my experience. I had what only can be described as a 'Show'. It was some type of waxy material; I immediately made an appointment to see my doctor'. 'After talking with him, he told me that I had had a miscarriage; 'But I wasn't even pregnant I replied! He seemed adamant about his conclusion'. Lynda's menstruation did not return and she was referred by her doctor to a gynaecologist. Many examinations were carried out in hope of finding her problem. It was not long until Lynda went to see a specialist at her local hospital and she was told that the results from her examinations had been successful and that they had found 'something'. Her Fallopian Tubes had been examined and scar tissue was found on them. Lynda was told that the scarring was the result of an ectopic pregnancy. Even though this can be fatal and extremely painful, Lynda reported no discomfort what so ever. 'I don't know what happened to me, but something did'. 'To tell you the

truth, it's made me realise about other odd things in my life' Lynda stated.

Immediately after her experience a strange mark had been found on Lynda's jeans. The strange mark strangely looked the same shape as the object she had seen. The mark on the jeans were later analysed at a University Institute and concluded to be printer ink, however why was it in that same shape? And Lynda did not even own a printer. Very odd! Over the years Lynda has discussed the incident in depth with her children. Their memories of that day have never altered, the only one thing of further interest was Christopher's memory of seeing a large TV type screen with a picture of his mother and themselves on it. Lisa also remembers the object jumping back a couple of times as Lynda approached it, as if to say 'Stay Away'.

During 1987, Lynda was working as a beauty consultant and was required to wear a plastic name badge whilst on duty. Her name mysteriously disappeared from the name badge within hours of wearing it. This inexplicably happened numerous times to replacement badges. . Investigators had arranged to have some analysis conducted on the name badge. The conclusion was rather odd... 'Radio Waves'. Scientists stated that the badge was adversely affected due to radio waves. Strange... It was not long afterwards Lynda left her job, due to the fact of feeling uneasy. 'Staff thought I was some sort of Witch or something! Lynda Stated.

After her experience in 1979, Lynda had to re-evaluate other odd experiences in her life, including a missing time episode she and her husband Trevor shared back in 1972 whilst out in their car.. It was early evening and they had decided to go for a drink at the Swan Public house in Knutsford, Cheshire. They had taken the country route, but when they finally stopped at traffic lights around 9.00pm the car suddenly began to spin. One minute they were seated in the car going around and around and then the next minute they were sitting at the traffic lights again, the lights were on green. They turned the next corner to find that the pub was in darkness. They quickly realised that the pub had closed and that it was around 2.30am. Lynda could not explain the car spinning as Trevor

“The next thing I remember is being inside a room watching six strange beings coming in. They were human looking.”

clearly had the handbrake on. Trevor also claimed to have seen bright lights behind them whilst spinning. A total of five and a half hours were missing with no explanation.

Other unusual experiences include a man wearing a trilby hat being seen numerous times. On one occasion Lynda had seen him in her back garden and rang the police. When the police attended, a couple of them went to the rear of her garden. Lynda noticed that they had been down there for quite some time. Eventually on returning, Lynda asked if they had found anyone down there. The police officer replied... 'Yes', 'There was someone down there but they simply disappeared'. 'Where did he go' said Lynda. 'No' replied the police officer, 'He really did simply disappear'. Lynda noticed that the officer looked shocked and confused. The officer quickly left and Lynda could not discover who the mysterious man was. On another occasion Lynda was asked to attend hospital for a particular test and after having the treatment, she later found that there was no record of it, nor did the doctor exist. To this date, Lynda receives common telephone faults and unusual letters in regards to further tests to be carried out. She has also been asked on more than one occasion if she had been in contact with radiation???

I asked Lynda to describe the object she had seen back in 1979, simply because human perception does alter as the years pass and I was privy to the original information reported. 'The object was nothing like what is generally reported as a UFO'. 'It was not a disc nor triangular in shape'. 'I have looked through many UFO books but never seen anything that looks remotely like what I saw'. 'The object was as if it was in two parts. The bottom of the object looked like the shape of a boat and seemed to be made of some type of lattice. It was grey in colour with small round things all over it. The top part of the object was just all 'light'. I have thought about this a lot and I believe there was something there but I could not see it because of how bright the light was. Directly above this light was a pole or rod of some kind with a strobing red or orange coloured light on it. I thought this to be at the rear of the object. Between the bottom part of the object and the light at the top part I could clearly see the field behind it, as if it was see through. You could



also partially see the lattice as well and it hovered about two or three feet off the ground without making a sound. In fact, there was no sounds at all. The object was pulsating backwards and forwards. After a minute or so, or what I thought was a minute, the bottom right side of the object seemed to disappear and was replaced with a strange mist. At that point I grabbed the children and ran for it'. Lisa did give mention to when they were running away, the object flew off and followed a civil aircraft heading in to Manchester Airport for a few seconds before rushing back towards them and splitting into two separate objects.

I quickly realised that Lynda's facts had never altered from the original report.

Around 1988 Lynda and Trevor had visited friends in Nottingham, and on heading back through the countryside their car headlights and interior lights started to fade. This apparently happened several times, fading then growing brighter then fading again. Trevor was becoming worried as his vision of the road ahead was becoming difficult. At that time they were travelling in a borrowed vehicle which had a diesel engine. After a while Trevor decided they could not continue safely and pulled into a lay-by to wait for another vehicle to pass, so they could follow its tail lights through the darkness. Suddenly, Trevor shouted out 'Lynda, look up'. Though hesitant at first, Lynda looked up to see a large bright circular craft slowly rising. It

seemed as if the object had been directly over them before ascending so high it became a dot in the night sky.

Thankfully, a red sports car slowly passed by, a chance for Trevor to follow its lights. They quickly jumped back into the car and headed off. They had followed the vehicle in front of them for several miles, its tail lights were bright and easy to see, though their car lights seemed to be OK now. Lynda tried to put the object she and Trevor had seen out of her mind, and thought to herself that she would talk about it in more depth once they were home and safe. Then suddenly Trevor said 'Where the bloody hell is it?' The car they had been following had suddenly vanished from sight. There was nothing but the darkness. At least the lights on their car were working now. Trevor recalled the strangeness of the event as he looked for a turn off, even a small lay-by where the red sports car they had followed could have turned into, but there was nothing. Just the straight road ahead. On arriving home they had both realised that the journey took around three hours longer than it should have. Over the next few days the car was checked out by a mechanic who could find no problems with any of the wiring. In fact, the lights never faded again.

During her driving test, Lynda recalled another strange incident when a dark-coloured classic car suddenly drove out in front of her and the driving instructor. Luckily Lynda's responses



were fast and she slammed on the brakes. She remembered seeing the driver and passenger of the car dressed in dark suits and wait for it...wearing trilby hats!!! The driving instructor was surprised at Lynda's responses as he stated 'I wouldn't have even seen that'. Lynda also recalls seeing a strange man when she went to the bathroom window, he was standing there wearing a dark suit and trilby hat, this time he was surrounded in mist and was somehow glowing from head to toe in a strange orange light. She watched him looking up at her from the garden for a minute or so before completely vanishing.

Lynda was plagued with many unusual experiences, including hearing a mysterious buzzing or bleeping noise, seeing strange balls of light and of course...the odd apparition. Approximately around 2002 Lynda's periods returned, even though she had been told by experts that she would never have them again. A specialist also told Lynda that all her ovaries had somehow been removed. She has even been diagnosed with numerous fatal illnesses, one of which was a rare bone disorder which would result in her bones slowly crumbling. None of these illnesses have ever manifested. Also, two weeks after the UFO Encounter, Lynda's son Christopher suddenly fell ill and was hospitalised due to an unknown virus.

So what about any official reports. Apparently a few weeks after Lynda's

experience in 1979 the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) telephoned her for a detailed report of the incident so that they could forward it to the Ministry of Defence (MOD). The gentleman from the CAA did confirm to Lynda that they were in fact aware of the object. Of course upon request it's no surprise to find that the Ministry of Defence claim to have no record of the event.

Finally, when I asked Lynda if she could recall any unusual events taking place in her life when she was a little girl, she replied... 'Yes', 'I recall apparently going missing for a few hours in some near-by playing fields. My family were out looking for me. But I had not left the playing field and don't remember seeing anything odd except my parents reaction when they saw me. They said that they had been to the field several times but there was no sign of anyone there. I don't understand what happened, it doesn't make any sense. On another occasion I remember seeing a fare or circus over near the fields, a large big wheel covered in lights yet apparently I was the only one to have seen it. I clearly remember seeing the spinning lights of the rides and funfair".

She tried to find out what she had seen and began to question other local residents, however, she's yet to locate any other witnesses apart from herself and children that saw the object on that particular day, however, a couple of residents did say that they had seen

something similar on other occasions. A few weeks after the UFO sighting, the location where the object was seen was apparently visited by parkland officials who, for some reason took up the old grass and re-seeded that particular area. About a foot of soil and grass was taken away from where this UFO stood. Now a divot can easily be seen, especially after heavy rain where the divot fills with water.

All Lynda's has ever wanted is just a normal life, but her life is filled with anomalies which are anything but normal... ■

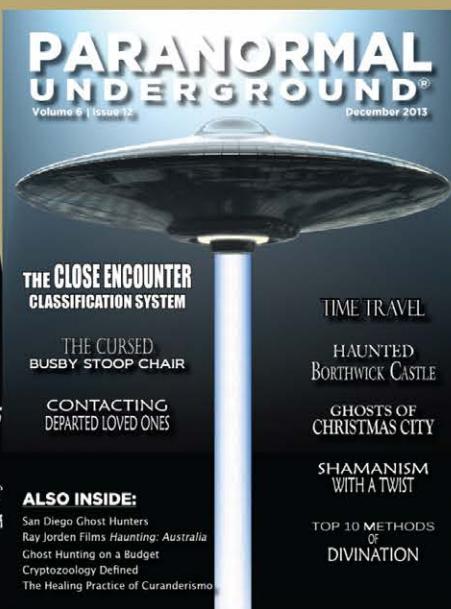
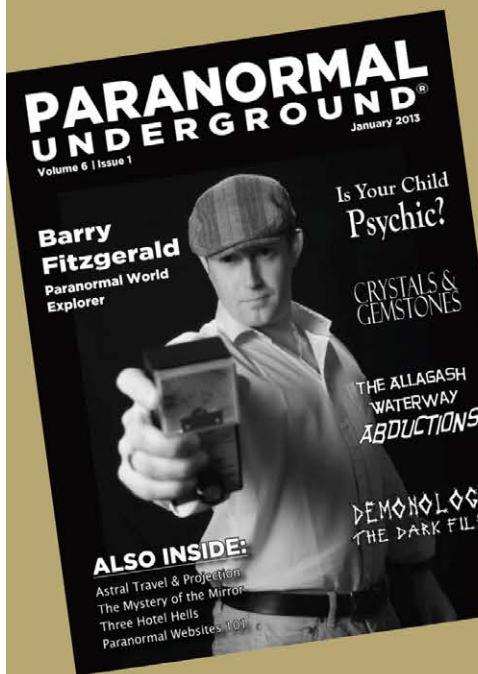
NOTES

After reading Lynda's experience one cannot help draw upon the similarities to the alleged biblical experience of Ezekiel in 597 B.C. After all, Lynda did say the object reminded her of something biblical. Ezekiel saw the object come from the North, just as Lynda did. Also, Ezekiel described the object as bright as fire and to consist of a wheel within a wheel (possibly two separate stages). Also, Ezekiel claimed to have seen angel like beings (or beings of fair complexion). Of course, one can see these similarities but it all comes down to interpretation of events. In Lynda's case, one thing stands out more than anything else. Her experience is like no others and indicates a more profound encounter away from the stereotypical reported incidents that often involve small gray beings with large dark eyes and silver coloured saucer shaped craft and often having a physical appearance... Clearly this is one of the most profound close encounters ever to take place in the UK.

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The Mexicans call them: **THE ALUX**

*All cultures seem to have their own take on the 'little people' and in this article **Bill Mack** talks about one species that originates in Mexico.*

For countless years, people from all walks of life from various countries have reported seeing strange small folk. Such stories have been incorporated into legends, tales and myths. But the startling truth to some of these stories are surrounded in facts. Strange dwarf like beings have been sighted, some are believed to live beneath our feet, throughout caves and tunnels systems. Who or what are these mysterious beings that seemingly have a long and rich history? What lies in the ancient jungles of South America? According to some, they might not be the only

two-legged homo-sapiens roaming their homeland. Could the Mayans be living next door to mythical dwarfs?

A timber hunter filed his report in 1926 with the British authorities in Belize City, the capital of what was then British Honduras. He was one of several hundred people who have claimed to have seen the elusive 'little people' of Central America and the Mexican Yucatan peninsula. His report read: "The beefy German timber surveyor stabbed the soft jungle earth with his machete, and reached for the soiled bandanna to wipe his florid face. As he rested, the murmur of a

jungle stream nearby spurred him to action. Plunging through the head-high savannah grass, he bulldozed his way toward the sound. Eager to plunge his sweaty body into the cool water, he half ran, half trotted towards the stream. "As his sweat-blurred eyes focused on his objective, he saw that he was not alone. Two incredibly tiny, bearded men standing at the edge of the stream were staring at him with fearful, panicked eyes. As the German stood gaping in amazement, the two tiny figures turned and vanished into the thick forest."

First western reports of these 'little



“ Among the hundreds of reported sightings, only a handful claim to have contacted the little people.

people' were made by a member of Sir Walter Raleigh's early voyages to the Americas. The native Americans of the Honduran area called them 'the Didi. Subsequent sightings by Europeans and Indians have occurred from Panama to the Mexican state of Yucatan. Different names are given to the Didi, depending upon where they are sighted. Some call them 'the Alux'. Despite the dissimilarity of names, the description provided by those who have seen them is remarkably consistent. They are seldom taller than four feet, dark skinned and are heavily bearded. Among the hundreds of reported sightings, only a handful claim to have contacted the little people, and these contactee stories suffer from the same suspicions that are attached to people who claim to have made contact with space aliens.

To the authorities in Belmopan, now the capital of Belize, these reports are taken with a grain of skeptical salt -very large-grained salt. To government knowledge, there has been no organized effort to find these elusive jungle dwellers. To most people in the hodge-podge capital of timber-rich Belize, the stories are products of feverish imaginations, too much booze, or the result of the active superstitions of the native American population.

In 1974, a privately sponsored 'Mesa Expedition' to Mexico's Yucatan peninsula was set up. The objective of the expedition was to search the area for archeological anomalies that occur in abundance in that region. In the simplest term, the voyagers were searching for the offbeat. One

possibility of interest was that the mysterious Olmec civilization – precursors of all indigenous South American civilizations – were of African origin. Among other objectives, they searched for possible Phoenician incursions throughout the area, and although their findings are challenged by more conventional archeological theorists, they found an amazing amount of material that defies their conventional thought. It was during this period that the idea of a tribe of "little people" came about, who allegedly dwelled in the tangled forests of Yucatan and Quintana Roo.

The Mayan-Mexicans call them Alux, and their description of them coincided with that of the other Central American sightings – tiny, hairy, and very scarce. Questions directed toward younger Mayans, who had the supposed benefits of a western style education, caused embarrassed giggles and earnest explanations that the Alux were figments of the older Mayans' imaginations. To the youngsters, it was pure folklore – primitive attempts to explain natural mysteries. But it was an entirely different story with the parents of these young disbelievers – to them, the Alux were 'wicked, powerful, dangerous tricksters'.

However, the many hundred Mayans who were questioned admitted that they had never seen an Alux. In Quintana Roo, the last frontier of the Mexican Republic, the voyagers were shown an 'Alux village.' A wise elder led them through a bewildering maze of tangled jungle and into a small clearing within light of the Caribbean. There, they saw three tiny stone huts – windowless and obviously long in disuse – stood in the center of the clearing. The stone structures were approximately four feet high with an open doorway, two feet in height. The elderly guide sincerely explained

that this had been the dwelling place of a group of local Alux. How did he know? His father had told him so. Perhaps this well-meaning believer did not know that these tiny huts were scattered throughout the Yucatan – most of them in-proximity to ancient ruins.

Conventional archeological belief is that they are votary shrines, and several have been found with the desiccated remains of vegetable offerings still resting on pottery dishes. Were these really the homes of the Alux? Or simply just doghouses? Because of the press of work within the expedition, prying into the life of the Alux was a part-time thing. But the similarity of the stories and the deep beliefs of the Mayan elders are intriguing.

During a respite in the states, an inquiry was made into the affairs of the little people. Every race, every nationality, has legends about little people. They are kind, malevolent, all-powerful, tricksters, hoaxers, witch doctors, child stealers and gods. From Ireland and her leprechauns to the Americas, north and south, the legend of the little ones persist. There are as many names for them as there are peoples. Banshees, kobolds, Alux, trolls – the list goes on.

Despite their diminutive size, the racial memories of a small-statured people has left a permanent impression in the folk tales of all nations. But does such a tribe, a remnant of the oldsters, still exist? Reason says no, but several hundred thousand Central Americans say yes.

In 1976, the Yucatan project was hijacked with unwanted publicity. Newspaper stories twisted the words of a voyager – Bill Mack. He fell victim to tongue-in-cheek headlines, such as – ‘Bill Mack in Search of Mexican Leprechaun’ and ‘Mack Off



and Searching’. To the casual reader, these stories were the report of a wild ‘goose hunt by some nut, but Mack was completely serious. He went on to make his headquarters in Merida – the charming, steaming, sophisticated capital of the Mexican state of Yucatan.

Merida is the center of Mayan activity, the very heart of the remains of that great civilization. Close by are the ruins of such great ceremonial centers, like Chichen Itza – magnificent, but sterilized by over-restoration, or the plundered remains of the mighty pyramid of Hamel, and the towering splendor of ancient Uxmal. Within a day’s driving distance is the breathtakingly spectacular, walled city of Tulum, the first of the native cities spotted by the Spaniards, before they began their devastating conquest of the region.

Mack’s search began in Merida at the Center for Mayan Studies. Housed in a beautiful old mansion, the center provides a college-level education for young Mayans, and it houses a small but carefully chosen exhibit of Mayan artifacts. Talks with the students

and faculty of the center were disappointing. They were adamant in their belief that the ‘Alux’ were a fairy story. Strike one. His next move was to visit his friend ‘Pepe’ Hernandez in Izmel. ‘Pepe’ is an enthusiast about everything – a devoted card and stamp collector. Over a few iced beers, Mack outlined his project to ‘Pepe’. It was like throwing a firecracker in a pit of snakes.

‘Pepe’ was off in all directions, and within a week, Mack had interviewed forty jungle-dwelling Mayans. They ranged from an arguably nutty man who said the Alux had wings and lived in the center of the earth, to a graduate of the University of Mexico, who airily dismissed the whole thing as delusion. No one had ever seen an Alux but a goodly number of them knew someone who had. The “someone who had” was, unfortunately, either dead, moved away from the country, or missing. Strike two.

Mack had been in the Yucatan for two months, and had notebooks bulging with stories of people who knew people who had seen an Alux. It was discouraging, but for a fortunate accident, he might have called the whole thing off. His car, a laboring relic of an earlier automotive era, decided to take a prolonged siesta on an offbeat road. He hiked to the nearest civilization which proved, by a lucky chance, to be the fenced-off ancient Mayan city of Mayapan.

In the fearsome heat of the Yucatan summer, Mack was the only visitor. The caretaker, a cheerful young Mayan named Xuc [Chuck] called for a mechanic, and meanwhile gave Mack a one-man tour of the decaying city which had once been the capital of the Mayan civilization. As ruins in Mexico go, Mayapan is not the most impressive. When it was built, the empire was in decline and the careful workmanship of earlier ceremonial centers was woefully lacking. The ruined buildings were an eyesore – the carvings inferior and the whole place looked a little bit like it had been made in Hong Kong. Thankfully, Xuc was a prize. Bright, happy, cooperative, and full of stories about the Mayans. He had just the news that Mack wanted to hear after he’d travelled 2000 miles to see him. Xuc had seen an Alux!

“As Xuc turned the corner of the Temple of the Birds, he was astonished to see a tiny man, no taller than four feet.”



As caretaker of the crumbling ruins, Xuc lives with his young wife and seven children in a small house outside the fenced wall. The city is padlocked early in the evening and Xuc is free to pursue whatever Mayans pursue during the balmy evenings. Xuc recalled that he had retired early only to be awakened about 3 a.m. by the sound of someone chopping wood inside the fenced-off city. Many things are scarce in the Yucatan, but firewood is not one of them – Mayapan is surrounded by timber. Mystified by the sound, Xuc opened the gate and cautiously headed toward the noise. As he turned the corner of the Temple of the Birds, he was astonished to see a tiny man, no taller than four feet. He was hacking at a branch that overhung the natural limestone well, that supplied the city with its drinking water.

As Xuc stood staring, the little man

dropped his machete and reached for something that hung at his waist. In the next instant, Xuc took cover behind the stone wall of the bird temple as round baked clay pellets were being fired at him with alarming velocity. After a few shots that pulverized on the stone wall, the unknown slingman ceased fire. Xuc waited for a few moments, and cautiously peered toward the well.

There was no one there. But what was there convinced Xuc that he wasn't having a dangerous nightmare. A branch of the tree bore fresh marks of the machete. The walls of the temple were splattered with powdery marks, where the clay balls had pulverized. Xuc returned home, a thoroughly puzzled young man. He had seen something that, although his parents had believed, he had dismissed as a fairy story. Xuc had seen an Alux. The next day, Xuc began a thorough

search of the area. In the spare underbrush of the temple site, he found two small clay balls – ammunition of the tiny attacker – that had missed. He showed Mack the balls. They were about the size of a small walnut, made from baked clay, and imperfectly molded. They are his evidence, and Mack believed him.

Xuc himself is torn between the theory that it may have been a mischievous child from a nearby village, and not an Alux. But he admits to at least one discrepancy. Despite his thirty-one years of living among his fellow Mayans, he had never seen any small children with a flowing beard. Sightings of small strange beings continue to be reported all over the world and have found their way into folklore, stories and even elements of the paranormal. Could such beings really exist and be living alongside humanity undetected? ■



FROM THE SHADOWS

with Paul Dale Roberts

HAUNTED ST. THOMAS

Back in 1997, my ex-wife and stepson and I had a layover in Puerto Rico, before we landed at our final destination

St. Thomas. We were headed to my sister's wedding. While waiting for our flight to St. Thomas, I talked with David Perez, who worked in the airport and has lived in Puerto Rico his whole life. David says that he lived on a farm with his father growing cacao and avocados. David says that they also had a few chickens at the farm. On one particular night, they heard loud clucking, the time was 2 a.m. David and his father ran out of the farmhouse and saw a 5-foot reptilian type of creature, with large red eyes, reptilian skin, and small wings on its back. David says what they saw was the infamous Chupacabra! The creature hissed at David and his father and then ran off. The Chupacabra killed four of their chickens. The blood was drained out from all four chickens and there were puncture marks on their breasts. David says that the legend of the Chupacabra is very real, because he has encountered the monster with his father. He also says that the Chupacabra seen in Texas is nothing like the Chupacabra seen in Puerto Rico. David says the Texas Chupacabra is nothing more than a coyote with mange. I have to agree with him.

After hearing this story I wanted to cancel my flight to St. Thomas, so I could scour the landscape of Puerto Rico and search out this monster, but I was obligated to attend my sister's wedding. My sister Sharon was getting married to a guy named Captain 'Crazy Jeff' Voshell. Jeff was the Captain of his own boat called the Orion. He would take tourists to St. John and St.

Croix from St. Thomas. He was also a boat mechanic and one of his client's was Morgan Freeman, the movie actor. Crazy Jeff was a legend on the island and it is rumored that the movie "Captain Ron" was based on him. Jeff was just like Captain Ron, very obnoxious, in-your-face type of guy, a real rugged sailor. My new brother-in-law took me to Bluebeard's Castle that is reputed to be haunted by the spirits of pirates. Some of the locales claim that the ghosts of the pirate known as Blackbeard and the pirate known as Bluebeard haunt Bluebeard's Castle.

Anything can happen in St. Thomas. My sister Sharon wearing a bikini stopped inside a gift shop to purchase a few items and met up with the actor Robert De Niro. Robert asked my sister out for a date and my sister smiled and told Robert that she was getting married. Robert congratulated her and walked out of the gift shop. St. Thomas is a very interesting island and it's a place that many celebrities enjoy visiting.

Besides the celebrities, you also have the hauntings. When in St. Thomas, you must do a kayak run through the haunted Mangrove Lagoon. This lagoon has a very unsettling atmosphere. The lagoon is a protected sanctuary and is made up of a system of islets that are populated by red mangroves. Thousands of birds nest in the mangroves. When I kayaked through the lagoon, I received goosebumps on my arms.

The place is just plain creepy. Jeff Avakian says that he saw six African looking men and women walking through the mangroves wearing white robes and as he was kayaking past them, they all looked up at him and then disappeared. There are many tunnels, shallow waters and jumbies (Caribbean ghost tales) that make up the lagoon. When I went through the lagoon, I could hear the stingrays slipping and sliding underneath my kayak. Our tour guide explained that the islet of Cas Cay is very haunted. A tourist named Keith Rowell was





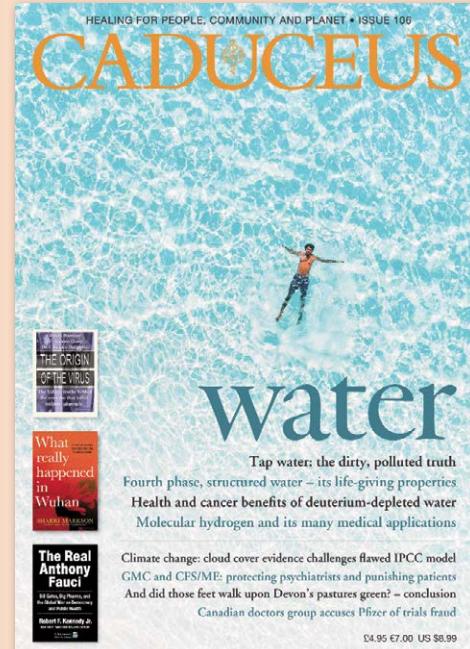
exploring a trail that leads to Red Point Blow Hole and a man, that looked like a zombie walked past him. The zombie-looking man, did not look at Keith and when Keith turned around he was gone. Keith reiterates: There was no way he could have vanished like that. When the zombie looking man walked past Keith, Keith turned around after a split second and he was gone. Keith says there was no way he could have vanished like that, but he did. Keith feels that he saw a ghost.

Another haunted location is Bluebeard's Castle (above). Captain Voshell showed me the pirate Bluebeard's Castle that is said to be very haunted. Crazy Jeff says that on one night, he actually saw a pirate ghost. Jeff was not able to determine if the pirate was Bluebeard, but he knew that the ghost was a pirate from his outfit. As Jeff watched the ghostly pirate, the pirate drove his sword into the sand and then looked up into the night sky and vanished. Some locals say that Bluebeard's Castle was built by Bluebeard, but history tells another story, that the Danes built the tower around 1689 as a watchtower. In the past, Bluebeard's Castle was known as Frederik's Fort.

Another known haunted location is Creque's Alley Number 3. The haunting at this location started in the 1930s. There are strange sounds that occur there. On several occasions during the evening, disembodied voices are heard in the alley. You are able to hear phantom footsteps. A dark hooded figure is sometimes seen in the alley, walking and looking down. A former local named Farrah Woodruff says that she heard disembodied voices speaking in tongues and when she looked down into the alley, she saw no one.

What is interesting is that an old Army friend of mine named Kirk Contino went to St. Thomas on vacation and said that on one night he went out to the docks to relax and smoke a cigarette and then he heard footsteps walking towards him and saw a long-haired blonde man cussing underneath his breath. The man stopped in his tracks and yelled "damn!!" and turned around and started walking back the way he came and then just faded away. Kirk realized he had just seen a ghost! Also, what is incredible, it seemed like he was describing my ex-brother-in-law, Captain Crazy Jeff Voshell who passed away a few years back and it would make sense that Jeff would be haunting St. Thomas because it was his home.

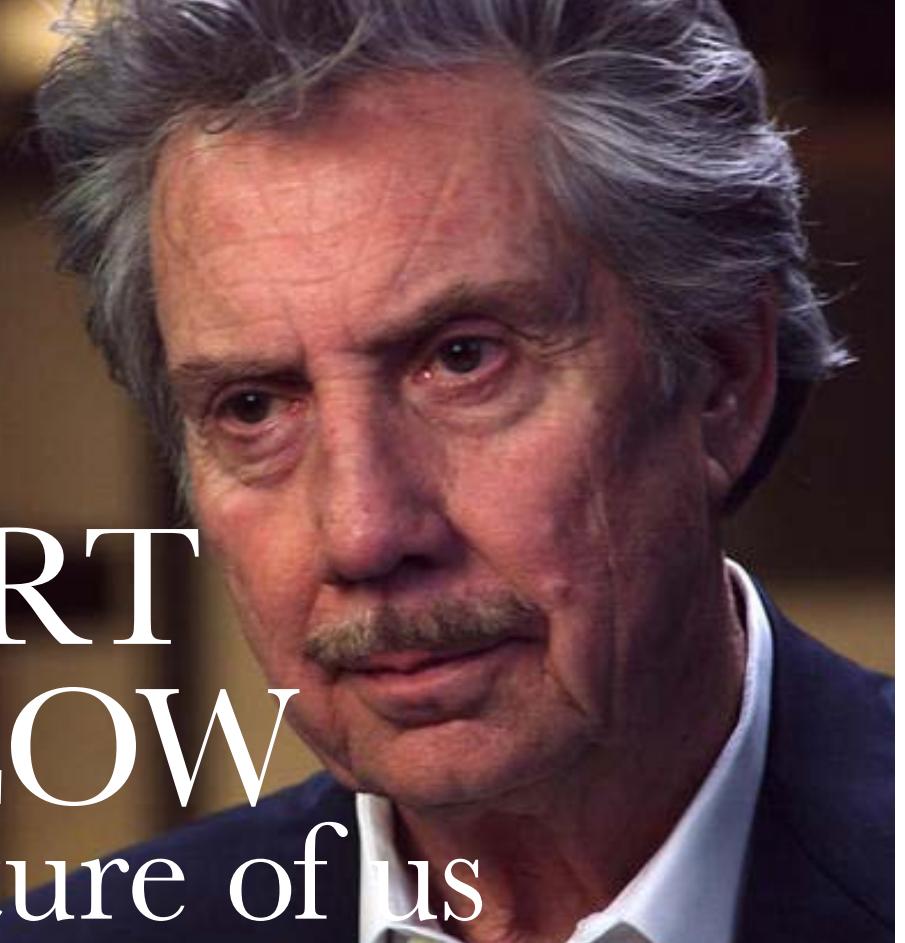
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ROBERT BIGELOW & the future of us

Occasional contributor John Ventre asks us to consider the UFO related organisation called, 'To the Stars Academy' and its possible connection to the billionaire Robert Bigelow. What is going on and why? Find out here.

By now you have read the pundits, conspiracy theorists and/or supporters of Tom DeLonge and his 'To the Stars Academy of Arts and Science'. I offer a different perspective: I say everything about this venture points towards billionaire Robert Bigelow and the Skinwalker Ranch. On Election Day 2016, John Kerry, the Russian Orthodox Pope, Buzz Aldrin and others were in the Antarctic on a mission. No announcement came as Hillary unexpectedly lost the election to Donald Trump. Was there a connection here to the 1946-47 Project Highjump and a secret Nazi base or alien base? Was disclosure now postponed until they could get a read on the new, unpredictable President?

A year later, in December of 2017, the biggest news to hit Ufology in years was revealed. The \$22M five-year Advanced Aviation Threat ID

Program (I filed a FOIA for the 490 page report) was revealed to the public. The program was sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada. He based it on the WWII UFO encounter with the USS Nimitz by pilot and future Senator Ted Stevens and the 2004 Navy pilot David Flavor testimony and video off the San Diego coast of an object defying the laws of gravity and physics.

Reid makes two interesting comments in a televised interview with KLAS reporter George Knapp that seems to just go over everyone's head. Reid said 'There were concerns about Satanism and anyone who thinks they have this figured out has no idea.' These two comments are essential to my digging a little deeper and my suspicions that there is more here than just aliens from space. In June of 2017, Robert Bigelow appears on 60 Minutes and says, 'there has been an existing presence, an ET

presence on earth and I have spent millions and millions.'

Tom DeLonge goes on to say that we have advanced high speed craft that can move through water and time and that these people (scientists) are heroes fighting demons. He also mentions consciousness. So what are we dealing with here? Aliens from space or entities from a dimension related to earth?

Let's take a look at Bigelow's associates. The National Institute for Discovery Science Board consisted of familiar names like Col. John Alexander, Hal Putoff, MUFONs John Schuessler, Jacques Vallee, Colm Kelleher and others. Bigelow is listed as President and Founder. Hal Putoff is one of the six members of Academy to the Stars. Hal was the Chairman of the Board of Bigelow's NIDS. Hal has worked on remote viewing and



WHO IS ROBERT BIGELOW?

1945 Born in Nevada

1987 He creates 'Budget Suites' hotels, sells in 2007 at a large profit before the housing crash.

1994 He funded URC made up of MUFON, CUFOS & FUFOR to research UFOs.

1995 He created the National Institute for Discovery Science.

1996 Purchases Skinwalker Ranch in Utah for \$200K.

1999 He founded Bigelow Aerospace, which supplies NASA with space pods.

2007-12 He received \$22M in funding through Senator Harry Reid.

2008-09 Paid MUFON Star Team \$672K for first access information on UFO investigations.

2010 FAA refers UFO

2017 60 Minutes interview- "ET presence on earth".

2017 He became the silent founder/partner of Academy to the Stars?

bending space and time for faster than light speed travel. He is a member of Scientology, an alien based religion.

In 2012, Dr. Eric Davis said in an interview regarding the Utah Skinwalker Ranch which he ran for Bigelow. Dr. Davis worked on NASA's Breakthrough Propulsion Project from 1996-2002 and is the CEO of Warp Drive Metrics: 'Multiple telepathic voices were heard at once. We viewed images floating in a fluid. We were telepathically told to contact Jack Sarfatti (atheist physicist and a current member of the six person Academy to the Stars team) and Hal Putoff (also an Academy to the Stars member) - "their work is important". There is a war in heaven and tricksters. A swirling black tunnel and a shape shifting creature were seen. There were three knocks, humming and then paranormal events. A green fog appeared and the inability to move. We can control space-time with our minds.'

Interestingly, the beast that Dr. Davis describes resembles the Montauk Project mind-created beast and the Forbidden Planet mind-created

creature. Colm Kelleher, a NIDS Board member, writes this 2005 book with George Knapp entitled *Hunt for the Skinwalker*. So far, no one has speculated that the technology that Tom DeLonge refers to came from the Skinwalker portal. I speculate that that is the origin of this species! Let's take a look at the information and players regarding the Aviary in Richard Boyland's book. Again you see many of the same people:

PENGUIN & Head of Aviary: John Alexander, Ph.D. in Death Sciences [Thanatology], Col., ("Ret."), U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM), which is undoubtedly his military cover for the National Security

Agency (NSA). Colonel Alexander is director of the Non-Lethal Weapons Department, Los Alamos, and has been reportedly involved in counter-intelligence remote-viewing, psychic-warfare, psychotronic and mind-control projects with military/security applications, while maintaining the cover of nonlethal military/crowd control physical-countermeasures research.

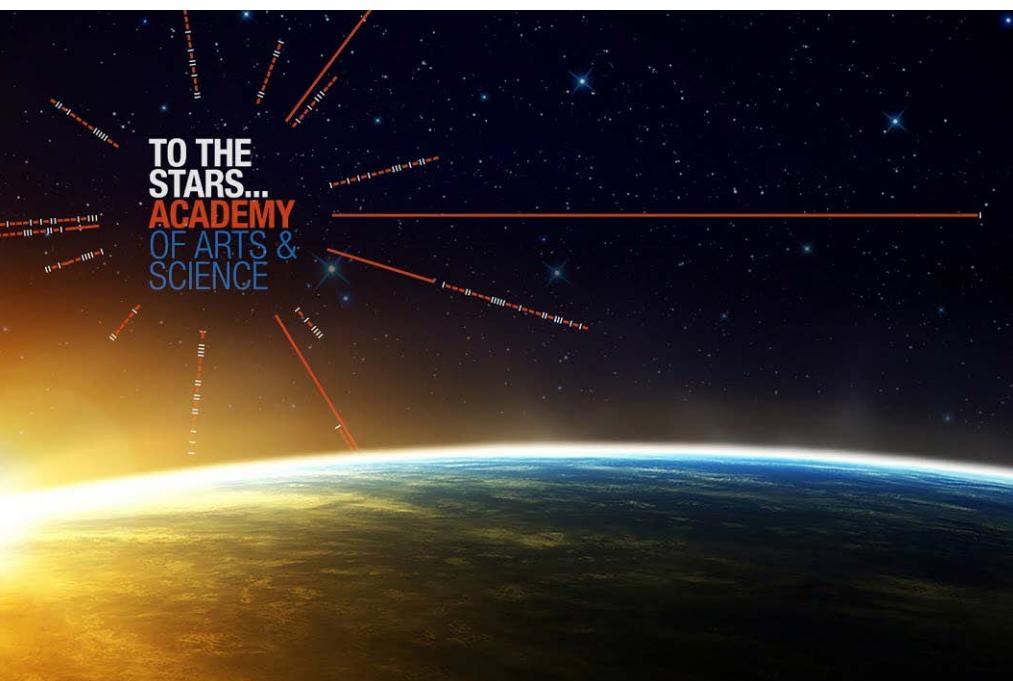
OWL: Hal Puthoff, physicist with the Institute for Advanced research in Austin, specializes in Zero-Point Energy, a quantum/resonance physics phenomenon and reported DIA researcher, (along with psi guru and fellow Scientologist Ingo Swann,) into parapsychological, psychotronic, remote-viewing, and mind-control projects, and reportedly involved in classified Star Visitor-technology studies.

PARTRIDGE: Jacques Vallee, Ph.D., formerly an astrophysicist with GEPAN, the French Government's UFO investigative agency, principal investigator with US Defense Department computer network projects; worked with astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek; prolific author on UFO subject, lately turning to metaphysical explanations for the phenomenon.

SEAGULL: Bruce Maccabee, Ph.D., research scientist in optical physics and laser weapons; MUFON physics/photo-interpretive consultant, author and consultant expert on selected "leaked" or disinformational UFO cases/topics, such as the Gulf Breeze.

FALCON: Sgt. Richard Doty, USAF (Ret.), Special Agent, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, reported to have engaged in UFO disinformation projects, including reportedly hoaxing TV producer Linda Moulton Howe concerning availability of a tape showing a UFO landing at Holloman Air Force Base, NM; and of allegedly

“A swirling black tunnel and a shape shifting creature were seen. There were three knocks... A green fog appeared.”



waging psychological warfare on Albuquerque defense electronics contractor Paul Bennewitz. (Doty told me he wasn't involved, he said Richard Helms was the Falcon).

To date, the Academy to the Stars has become a publicly traded stock at \$5 per common share with a minimum of 40 shares purchased. They have over 3000 investors and have risen nearly \$3M which frankly is not enough money to do much with but more money than MUFON ever amassed..

Tom DeLonge has also said that aliens are malevolent. We know from Gordon Thomas' book *Secrets and Lies* that in 1970 the CIA sponsored Operation MK-Often was to harness the powers of the dark side as a weapon. We also know that in 1954, Dr. Hermann Oberth said regarding the atomic bomb, 'We cannot take the credit for our record advancement in certain scientific fields alone. We have been helped.' Who helped us and where are the helpers from?

How can we determine our future when we don't understand our past?

EVOLUTION: Survival of fittest. Greed is good. Science is the beginning and end.

CREATION: In Harmony. Non-violent, all equal. Give don't take. Image of Creator.

ENGINEERED: Transhumanism. Merge man and machine. Enhanced DNA. Super soldiers.

Where will this technology take us? Should we even go there if this is forbidden knowledge? My guess is that Harry Reid's satanic concerns are of the religious right if they found out where this technology originates. There is also the 1938 Panic Broadcast, 1960 Brookings Institute findings on disclosure and the 2006 Peters Religious Crisis survey concerns. Atheist physicist Stephen Hawking believes contact will go bad for us. Interestingly, no one on record with ALS has lived as long as Hawking has who has had it 51 years. How startling would it be to have a disclosure announcement made through Hawking only to discover that he was replaced years ago by an A.I. robot with a synthesized voice? OK I'm letting my imagination get ahead of me.

Is it time for Ufology and UFO groups to move away from the extraterrestrial hypothesis and replace it with the interdimensional hypothesis which I have been advocating for? How

embarrassing if aliens were never actually from space. What if Erich von Daniken is completely wrong? There may be aliens from space. There should be aliens from space but I more and more question that. What if they are interdimensional shapeshifters that have been around since long before we arrived? What if they are Skinwalkers as I suspect and Mr. Big knows?

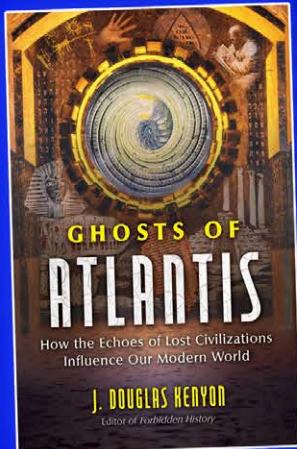
I keep thinking of the Phil Klass curse which has stood the test of time: "No matter how long you live, you will never know any more about UFOs than you know today. You will never know any more about what UFOs really are, or where they come from. You will never know any more about what the U.S. Government really knows about UFOs than you know today. As you lie on your own death-bed you will be as mystified about UFOs as you are today. And you will remember this curse". ■

More at johnventre.com

“It’s time for Ufology to move away from the ET hypothesis and replace it with the interdimensional hypothesis.

GHOSTS OF ATLANTIS

How the Echoes of Lost Civilizations Influence Our Modern World



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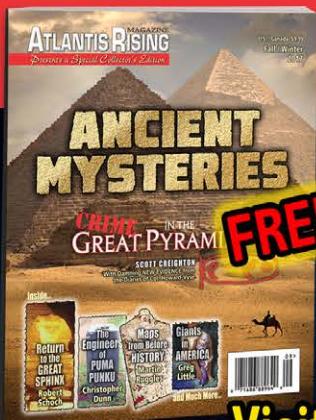


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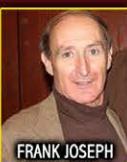


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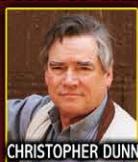
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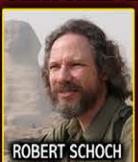
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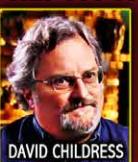
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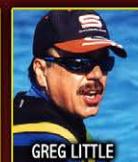
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JOE STEWART'S LETTER FROM AMERICA



I Know What You're Hiding. . .

It's a perfect day for deer hunting, with sunny, blue skies accenting the fall colors north of Lapeer, Michigan. Both deer hunters were in a prime hunting area, accessible only through an old creek bed. They knocked off from the hunt around 11 a.m. and went to town for lunch. Unknown to the hunters, something else was hunting that prime area.

The hunters returned two hours later to find the creek bed strewn with two to four-inch diameter trees with their root balls intact. Five uprooted trees made the creek bed impassable, blocking their way. One hunter saw what first appeared to be a bare

human footprint around seventeen inches long and five inches wide on the creek bank. Upon closer inspection, the hunter realized that he had seen those footprints before. He told his friend there was a Sasquatch in there, and it was taking exception to their presence; the trees were a warning. They were reluctant to leave this good hunting spot, but considering the trees the hunters realized the strength it took to uproot a tree and toss it, root ball and all, into that creek bed. With that in mind they decided to hunt in another location far from this one.

The Sasquatches are very stingy about sharing hunting and fishing areas.

Anybody that would happen to be in such an area would usually witness a rock-throwing display to communicate a warning to vacate the location. I have been on the receiving end of such a rock-throwing display. It is nerve-racking, to say the least, especially when the rocks are landing near you, getting a little too close for comfort. Yet, the remarkable thing is, the rocks never hit me—not once.

One day I ate my lunch in a local restaurant, reading up on genetics for research purposes. A gentleman came up to me, he was curious as to why I was reading on that subject. He introduced himself as Dr. Foxe, a retired medical doctor. He once was a genetics research scientist specializing in alleles (multiple versions of a gene); for example, there are multiple alleles responsible for eye color. I found out he was a fellow researcher of the Sasquatches. Dr. Foxe and I immediately hit it off. I found out, to my amazement, that he had been researching the same area as me near Lake Ovid. He had documented tree structures, cast footprints, and collected hair and possible tissue samples.

I've been researching the lake's northern area since the fall of 2018, observing the Sasquatches' behavior through interactions. Dr. Foxe and a colleague had been working in the south since 2014, collecting evidence. Dr. Foxe's partner grew up in the area





“I’ve researched the lake’s northern area since 2018, observing the Sasquatches’ behavior through interactions.

and heard about a breeding population of Sasquatches living near Lake Ovid.

I created an ‘exchange area’, where I put out their favorite junk foods to promote interaction and trust. I’ve also been casting footprints and collecting hair samples for species identification. In late 2019, I wanted to locate their sleeping and eating area. There were no signs of them occupying the north, so they had to be in the south. But COVID kept me from exploring that area for the next couple of years. Dr. Foxe had proven that the site in the south was the Sasquatches’ sleeping and eating place. The lake offered up plenty of fish and water, all the ingredients to support a small band of Sasquatches.

One day over coffee, I found out that Dr. Foxe hadn’t been in the south forest since 2016. I had assumed he and his colleague had been in there all along. I was curious about why. He pulled out his phone and showed me where they entered the forest to access their research area. I was shocked at what I saw—nine deer skulls mounted on a group of saplings four to six feet tall. The samplings supported the skulls by their foramen magnum (the hole in a skull that would receive the spinal cord).

It reminded me of 2004, when I came across possible evidence of some Sasquatches who were performing what I assumed to be a hunting ritual.

It involved several washed organs from a deer laid out in a horizontal line about a foot between each organ and close to a small pond. I found no carcass. One of the organs was the liver, prized above all organs for nutrition. Why wasn’t it eaten rather than put on display, an offering? I felt like an intruder in a sacred place.

Dr. Foxe explained that he had discovered some curious artifacts. One was two deer skulls on the ground; the empty eye sockets, if they still had eyes, were looking in the direction of the lake. He also found some deer bones in an arrangement on the ground. Dr. Foxe then informed me the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had closed the access road. A berm was created by the State, blocking vehicle traffic and prohibited hiking. The DNR had apparently removed the skulls.

I recently questioned a senior DNR official about closing the access road in 2016. I showed him the skull pictures on my phone. He ignored the images and walked away, ending our conversation. I then interviewed some locals, and they said they had never seen the skulls. One stated he never hiked that way; it was too creepy for him. He always felt like he was being watched. He did, though, remember the DNR blocking the access road.

I found out recently the DNR was closing off my research area in the north with a metal guardrail.

The hiking path, ordinarily active, was abandoned. No matter, I will hike the flood plain of the lake, and I’ll trek through the swamps to get to my exchange area, bypassing the DNR’s attempt to suppress the area. I don’t know why those skulls were displayed in such a manner. Dr. Foxe sees it as a warning to stay out, and maybe he is right. The DNR sees it as a threat. Dr. Foxe and I, after much discussion, struck an accord to continue our research in that area.



THE EXYSTAL ENCOUNTERS WITH A DJINN

Magazine editor Brian Allan tells of one of his early investigations involving an entity that turned out to be one of the most enigmatic entities in paranormal lore: a Djinn.

This opportunity to investigate this case was presented to me by professional psychics Jim and Annemarie Lochhead. From my perspective the events described are unique for two reasons:

- 1) This was the first time I had been directly involved in a case of demonic possession
- 2) It was also the first and probably the last time I will ever encounter a Djinn, although initially I did not realise that is what it was.

As we will discover, because of the possibility that the entity could return after being banished, I was specifically asked not to record any part of the necessary rituals using cameras

or voice recorders. Therefore, other than pictures taken the following day of the actual location, I have no photographic evidence to help substantiate the outcome.

This was the first time that such a request had been made, so all photographs containing an image of the items involved taken prior to the ceremony were likewise destroyed, which is a pity because there were some remarkable pictures involving the self illumination of items central to the investigation. Consequently, I was not even permitted to take video footage of the final cleansing ceremony conducted above the murky waters of the River Forth on the central span of the Kincardine Bridge on the Fife/Stirlingshire boundary.

The circumstances surrounding these rather alarming occurrences concerned a family who are friendly with my psychic colleagues. The family were experiencing a series of problems relating to certain artefacts in their possession. The items had been collected during the travels of the now deceased head of the family and consisted of various objects from Africa, Asia and the Middle East, comprising tribal masks, spears, blowpipes, beads and a variety of crystals.

For the most part these diverse items had mostly been kept in the attic of the family home with a few displayed as ornaments. For years nothing unusual occurred other than an indefinable 'unluckiness' which



Authors note: Due to the nature of this case I was specifically asked not to use the images I took during the investigation. It was thought likely that these images might somehow 'call back' the spirit. When dealing with Djinn is it best to take no chances, so I complied with the request

seemed to dog all the family, but when the owner died and his family were going through his belongings things quickly changed for the worse. There was one item in particular that seemed to be the focus of considerable negative energy; this item was a crystal, a semi-precious stone, originating from Saudi Arabia.

Initially, the family did not connect what was happening in their lives with the stone and as a result gave it as a gift to a family friend who had expressed an interest in it. As the psychics later discovered, handling the stone had reactivated whatever force lay dormant within in it. Within a few days of the crystal changing hands its new owner started experiencing some personal traumas

that affected his life quite markedly. He started acting in an unfamiliar and disquieting manner much to the disquiet of his friends and family.

Shortly after this, the Lochhead's became aware of events and offered to help the crystal's current owner, it was at this point I became involved. Although I had not yet seen it, based on where it had been bought the crystal sounded very much like a 'Qasuma Stone'. I already had seen these stones while working in the Middle East where they are fairly common. They are also known as 'Qaisumah diamonds', after the Saudi village where they were first discovered. Millennia ago, rain washed millions of these rough quartz gems downstream from the Hijaz

mountains; the waters ran into the Arabian Gulf and the stones were deposited on what eventually became vast desert plains. The stones get their name from a province of Saudi Arabia called Qaisumah, and when they are dressed and polished they resemble a low grade, slightly cloudy diamond. They do not have any great intrinsic value, but are nevertheless often sought out by expatriates as souvenirs and are mounted in items of jewellery.

I should explain that since written Arabic does not always conform to standard western spelling, there is no definitive spelling of the word, 'Qaisumah' e.g. 'Qasuma', and it is rendered here phonetically; it could equally well have been rendered

as 'Kasuma'. However for the rest of this article I will use the spelling 'Qasuma'. This is one of the reasons why it is often claimed that the only language to fully express and explain the Islamic holy book, the Koran, is Arabic. At the time the point of origin of the crystal should perhaps have given some indication of what might be inducing this energy, but it did not become obvious until much later.

Annemarie was able to view the crystal and after examining some markings on it, deduced that the crystal had been used in occult ceremonies. An Islamic shaman, perhaps a practitioner of the mystical side of Islam known as a 'Sufi', would probably have conducted these ceremonies. It is worth pointing out that in common with the Christian bible, the Islamic holy book, the Koran, can, like the bible, be used for good as well as evil; the information is there for those with the knowledge and will to decode it. As if this was not bad enough, the crystal was also the focal point for a 'lower astral entity' that could and would do positive harm to whomever it came in contact with. This impression was confirmed when she viewed a photograph of the unfortunate man who was currently in possession of the crystal; he looked far from well.

The significance of the crystal is that (according to Jim), by nature of its molecular construction it is amenable to psychic manipulation. In other words it is possible that a crystal can be influenced or 'programmed' either by accident or design. This phenomenon has been suggested as one mechanism by which alleged ghosts materialise, i.e. the 'stone tape' theory, where the image is 'recorded' into the fabric of a building or area and in suitable circumstances can be replayed. In this particular case through its former usage, this crystal



had been infested by a particularly malignant lower astral entity. Lower astral entities are, as I have seen in previous cases, spirit beings whose malevolence is proportional to their condition when alive. In other words the more unpleasant someone has been in life is reflected by their position in the pecking order on the 'other side'. The worse they were while in physical form the lower down the scale they are placed, although evidently over time they gradually rehabilitate and rise through the ranks.

In the course of the investigation I was able to view the photographs myself; they are truly remarkable and a little alarming. They show a variety of semi-precious stones in a small wicker basket, the crystal in question did not look particularly unusual. The series of photographs

show the basket in normal and very low light conditions and the difference is extraordinary, in low light it is as if the contents of the basket are lit from within. There is a slice of agate in particular, which, when in close proximity to the crystal, glows with a strong inner light and when the crystal is removed becomes relatively dull and lacklustre. Also within the agate there is the image of a man's head, three dimensional and perfect, I do not believe this to be a simulacra either, it is too natural, almost photo realistic.

Rather more alarmingly, in the shadows surrounding the basket can be discerned the aquiline face of a bearded man seemingly wearing a headdress, like the Saudi 'Ghutra'. According to Annemarie this is the entity damaging all those who have the misfortune to come within its malignant influence since the crystal was awakened from its long sleep. In normal circumstances 'deprogramming' the crystal would have been a straightforward procedure, but due to the unhealthy atmosphere it was creating the attitude of its present owner became increasingly hostile. This got to the point where he regarded Annemarie and more so her husband Jim, as embodiments of the devil who were determined to cause them harm. Another odd effect of this bizarre

“Rather more alarmingly, in the shadows surrounding the basket can be discerned the aquiline face of a bearded man.”

and symbiotic relationship is that the affected person can't live with the object and can't live without it.

This state of affairs is strangely reminiscent of the relationship between the tortured creature, 'Gollum', and the ring of invisibility in J.R.R. Tolkein's classic fantasy, *Lord of the Rings*. Although the twisted and deformed Gollum knew that the ring was slowly killing him, he simply could not bear to part with it, referring to it as 'his precious'. This exactly paralleled what was happening to the acquaintance of the two mediums. As far as dealing with the situation regarding the stone, the medium said that her 'spirit guide' explained that the crystal should be 'deprogrammed' and thrown into the sea. This would effectively deal with the entity and more importantly, also help the poor soul affected by it, this should cancel all the spiritual interference affecting the family.

The medium was quite concerned that the 'deprogramming' should be carried out with a minimum of delay as the man concerned was quite likely to become a great deal worse. Added to this, his mind was liable to become affected to the point where his imagination was quite capable of doing the work started by the entity. It was getting to the point where the unfortunate man was, sooner or later, going to require medical help. The problem was how to get hold of the artefact and start working on it. Try as she might, every time she set up a meeting with the family with a view to obtaining the object, it never actually took place. The medium was convinced that this was a deliberate course of action influenced by the malign entity to prevent her cleansing the crystal. Then for a time the object dropped out of sight, and the family either wouldn't or couldn't reveal its location, this development might also have been engineered by the possessing entity.

A few weeks passed with no news of the whereabouts of the stone, until, in January 2002, the mediums phoned and explained that the family who possessed the crystal had contacted them and wanted both it and its effects neutralised immediately. They intended to drive to the Kincardine Bridge, carry out a brief ceremony and throw the crystal from the central

span into the murky, dark, tidal waters of the River Forth. Within twenty minutes they had parked outside my home and I was introduced to Tom (pseudonym) who was suffering the ill effects and his mother, they were clearly anxious for the cleansing to be carried out. Tom, who is around thirty, looked quite frail and ill, his health having been adversely affected by the negative emanations from the crystal and its resident entity. His mother explained that it had taken all her persuasive abilities to convince her son to dispose of the gem. I had intended recording the proceedings on video, but the medium, Jim, was adamant that this should not happen.

He explained that it was imperative to remove all reminders of the crystal once it had been dealt with. Any photographs and negatives on which it featured would be burned to remove all trace of its existence; and we should even try to avoid thinking about it. Apparently even though the crystal had been disposed of, anything bearing its likeness while

in its negative state was enough to reactivate it. I was able to examine the stone, although on advice I did not touch it. It was as I had suspected earlier, the object was indeed a Qasuma stone and I recognised it immediately. In appearance it resembles a small, smooth, milky, translucent pebble.

A small part of its otherwise perfect surface had been cut and polished to produce a facet about 8mm in length. This surface had been finely tooled or engraved to produce several images; using a magnifying glass these appeared to be bas-relief faces. There was also an Arabic numeral 9 and what looked like a flower. Annemarie explained that this small area was where the entity gained access to the crystal. However the stone was not the only item being disposed of, there was also an attractive solitaire ring. This had been manufactured to feature another stone of the same type that had been cut and polished then mounted in a gold setting. Regrettably this item of jewellery,



although very pretty, also had negative emanations and was also to be thrown from the bridge.

Leaving my home we made our way up onto the bridge, at first due to the volume of traffic we could not cross the road, almost as if the entity was attempting to prevent the psychics banishing it. We finally got across by retracing our steps and going under the bridge to avoid the traffic, up the steep embankment at the other side on to the pavement and walked out onto the centre span. Annemarie took the stone from its container explaining what she planned to do. The ceremony would involve commanding the entity to return to the stone then returning it to the astral plain. Once this had been accomplished, she would imbue the stone with positive energy then have Tom hurl it into the waters below us. While doing this he should say that he was casting away all the negativity that had plagued the family. I was watching intently as she said this and an unsettling change occurred to her face and voice. The skin around her eyes became very dark and bruised looking and her voice began to slur, she began the ritual. With the stone cupped in her hands she closed her eyes.

The weather, which had not been particularly good, quickly got worse and the rain started to pour down, then the wind increased in intensity causing us to sway from side to side. Heavy trucks thundered by behind us and the bridge shook underfoot. I sensed, heard, felt, (it's difficult to describe), a buzzing noise like hissing in my ears and sudden pain in my forehead. The medium opened her eyes and told us that the entity was now imprisoned in the stone and would be returned to its own plane. She also asked if we felt anything while she was dealing with the entity, evidently we all had to one degree or another. She looked at Tom and handed him the stone; quite honestly he looked absolutely dreadful, really ill, pale and cold.



Taking the stone in his gloved hand, he threw it over the railings into the wind lashed, murky, grey water below. We watched it as it was blown in an arc down to the turbulent surface and disappeared with a small splash and a few ripples. The same procedure was carried out with the solitaire ring and again Andrew hurled it over the edge, uttering the words of rejection. As he did this, Jim threw the presentation boxes that had contained the ring and stone over the guardrail as well. Coincidentally, as he did this, the wind and rain eased off markedly as if on cue and the atmosphere seemed less emotionally charged. Annemarie then offered a few words of simple prayer and we walked back to their parked car. By this time the traffic had slackened off and we were able to cross the road with ease. When we returned to my house Andrew looked transformed. He was smiling broadly and was obviously in good spirits as indeed was his mother; they were obviously delighted with their decision. Their good humour was infectious and we all felt lifted. I felt honoured to have witnessed this unique ceremony.

CONCLUSION

All cases involving the paranormal are unique and this was no exception I have never dealt with anything quite

like it and never thought I would. To all intents and purposes this was an exorcism; the ingredients were there, curses, a malignant possessing entity, illness and genuine distress. The photographs of the crystal in the basket glowing in its own internal light, the Arabian face and how Tom looked before and after. Annemarie's eyes when she held the crystal, the sensations I experienced when she was locked in psychic combat with the entity, these comprised the evidence, but how do you quantify this in anything like scientific terms? Simply, one cannot, and this is a failing that stigmatises much in the field of paranormal research, the lack of substantive physical evidence or proof. All I could do was adopt a neutral, open-minded stance to both observe and record

What I saw and felt, although entirely subjective, convinced me that something genuine happened; there was an alteration in my perception of reality. As in so many other cases I felt that perhaps at last here was a glimmer of light, a brief glimpse of the elusive truth. Did the medium actually alter the perceptions of those around her for a period and draw us into the alternate reality she created and manipulated, or were the impressions entirely subjective? Was this a demonstration of quantum reality? Perhaps, and it is possible that the ultimate truth to the quest for the mechanism behind the paranormal lies here, in the very origins of matter, the infinitesimal. I awaited reports about Tom and his family, and evidently the 'curse', if that's what it was, had vanished. ■

“The medium opened her eyes and told us that the entity was now imprisoned in the stone.”

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LIGHTER THAN AIR

The Strangest Solid on Earth: A Chemical Perspective

Dr. Brett Cohen Ph.D makes a return to the pages of *Phenomena Magazine* with a look at a genuinely unique substance called an ‘aerogel’

One of the most unique and supernatural materials on Planet Earth is a solid called Aerogels. This strange synthetic material is straight out of science fiction. Aerogel is a synthetic porous ultralight solid, which was created by American scientist Samuel Stephens Kistler in 1931. Kistler created this synthetic solid as a result of a bet with a colleague (Barron & Nellis, 2016). Chemically, Kistler replaced the liquid in jellies (gels) with gas without causing shrinkage. A gel is a solid jelly-like soft material. Gels have properties ranging from soft and weak in structure to hard and tough. These gels comprise a microporous solid in which the dispersed phase is a gas. Aerogels are produced by extracting the liquid component of a gel through supercritical drying. Supercritical drying (also known as critical point drying) is a chemical process to remove a liquid in a precise and controlled manner (Evangelos and Mujumdar, 2011).

In other words, this chemical process allows the liquid in the gel to slowly dry off without causing the solid matrix in the gel to collapse (due to capillary action) as compared to conventional laboratory chemical evaporation techniques. As the liquid substance in a liquid body (gel) crosses the boundary from liquid to gas during

the supercritical drying process, the liquid changes into a gas at a finite rate, while the amount of liquid in the gel decreases. When this happens within a heterogeneous environment in the gel, surface tension in the liquid body pulls against any solid structures the liquid might be in contact with. Delicate structures such as cell walls (the dendrites of the gel), tend to be broken apart by this surface tension as the liquid–gas–solid junction moves by. At the end of the supercritical

drying process, the gel is converted to a porous ultralight solid (producing an aerogel).

Aerogels are extremely low density solids. Aerogels in general, have many nicknames such as; solid air, solid cloud, and blue smoke {for silica based aerogels (see below and opposite)}. Aerogels also have the distinction of having low thermal conductivity. The term aerogel is not a single material with a set chemical formula; instead,





the term is used to group all materials with a certain geometric structure. The first aerogels invented by Kistler were produced from silica gels (with a chemical formula of SiO_2). Later work by Kistler involved aerogels based on alumina (aluminum oxide oxide is an inorganic compound, with the chemical formula of Al_2O_3), chromia (chromium(III) oxide is an inorganic compound, with the chemical formula Cr_2O_3) and tin dioxide {tin(IV) oxide (also known as stannic oxide) is an inorganic compound, with the chemical formula SnO_2 } (Kistler, 1932).

The structure of an aerogel is technically a foam. Aerogels can be synthesized in many different shapes and forms. The majority of aerogels are composed of silica, but carbon, iron oxide, organic polymers, semiconductor nanostructures, gold and copper can also form aerogel (www.azom.com). It is important to note, that silica aerogel is the most common type of aerogel, and the most extensively studied and used. After the supercritical drying process, silica aerogels form a three-dimensional, intertwined cluster that make up only approximately 3% of the volume of the aerogel. The remaining 97% of the volume is composed mainly of air in extremely small nanopores. Silica aerogels also have a high optical transmission of approximately 99% and a low refractive index of approximately 1.05 (Gurav, et al. 2010). In optics, the refractive index or index of refraction of a material is a dimensionless number that describes how fast light propagates through the material.

Refractive index is defined as the ratio of the velocity of light (c) in a vacuum to its velocity in a specified medium. For example, the refractive index of water is 1.333, meaning that light travels 1.333 times as fast in vacuum as in water. This makes silica aerogels very poor radiative insulators (see below). It is interesting to note, that one type of aerogel created by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California {derived from pure silicon dioxide (with a chemical formula of SiO_2) and sand or silica} holds the Guinness World Record for the lightest solid on Planet Earth (*Guinness Records*, 2002).

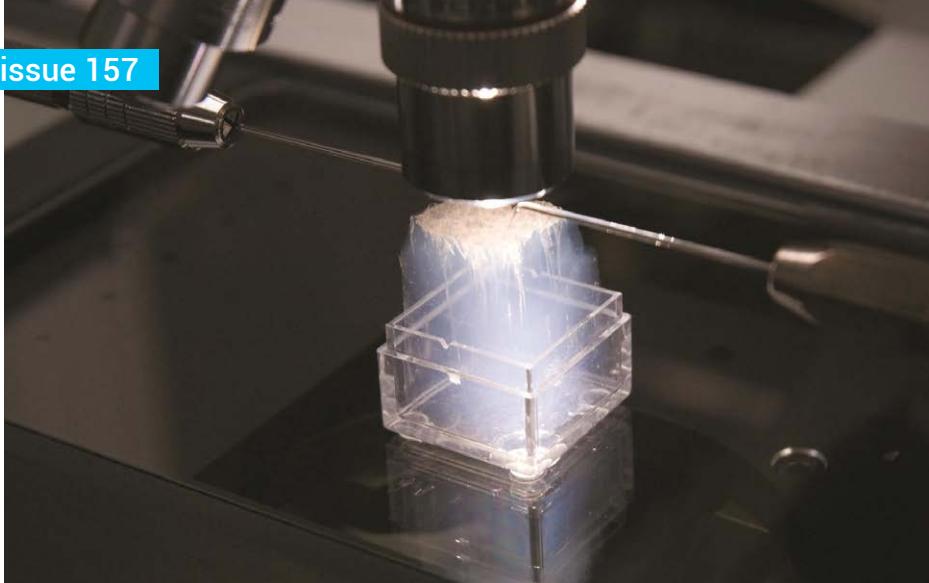
Aerogels are solid, rigid and dry synthetic materials that do not resemble the original jelly-like gel before the supercritical drying chemical process. Pressing softly on an aerogel porous ultralight solid typically does not leave a minor mark but pressing more firmly will leave a permanent depression. Pressing extremely firmly will cause a catastrophic breakdown in the aerogel structure. This can cause the aerogel to shatter (similar to glass) and this property is called

friability. In other words, aerogels have the tendency to chip, crumble or break following compression. Despite the fact that aerogels are prone to shattering, they are very strong structurally. This is due to the dendritic microstructure (see above), in which spherical particles (such as silica or sand) have an average particle size of 2 to 5 nm which are fused together into clusters. These clusters form a three-dimensional highly porous structure of fractal chains. It is important to note, that aerogels are a solid material that is 99.8% air. Therefore, aerogels have a porous solid network that comprises many air pockets, with the air pockets taking up the majority of space within the material and the lack of solid material allows aerogel to be almost weightless (azom.com).

Aerogel structures can also form a sol-gel polymerization solid, where monomers (simple unpolymerized molecules) react with other monomers to form a sol. A sol (colloidal suspension of solid particles) is a substance that consists of bonded, cross-linked macromolecules to give silica sol materials with deposits of liquid solution between them. This can be done chemically through three different primary reactions (hydrolysis, water condensation and alcohol condensation) to form a silica sol via the alkoxide technique (aerogel.org/?p=16). During the supercritical drying process, the liquid within the sol gel is evaporated out and a bonded and cross-linked macromolecule frame is left behind. The result of polymerization with supercritical heating is a material that has a porous strong structure classified as an aerogel. Variations in synthesis can alter the surface area and pore size of the aerogel. The smaller the pore size the more susceptible the aerogel is to fracture (aerogel.org/?p=16).

Aerogels are also good thermal insulators because they almost

“Aerogels are solid, rigid and dry synthetic materials that do not resemble the jelly-like gel before the chemical drying process”



nullify heat transfer (due to chemical processes of conduction and/or convection) because of two factors; 1) they are mostly composed of insulating gas and 2) a microstructure network which prevents gas movement and as a result air cannot circulate through the solid aerogel lattice effectively as compared to normal solid materials. Conduction is the process by which heat or electricity is directly transmitted through a substance when there is a difference in temperature. Convection is the movement caused within a fluid by the tendency of a hotter substance and therefore less dense material to rise, which consequently results in transfer of heat.

In other words, aerogels are good conductive insulators because they are composed almost entirely of gases, which are very poor heat conductors. For this reason silica (with a chemical formula of SiO₂) based aerogels are excellent insulators, because silica is a very poor conductor of heat energy. Aerogels as a result, have a thermal conductivity smaller than that of the gas they contain. This is caused by the Knudsen effect. The Knudsen effect results in a reduction of thermal conductivity in gases when the size of the cavity within the aerogel encompassing the gas becomes comparable to the mean free path of the gas. In physics, the mean free path is the average distance travelled by a moving particle (such as an atom, a molecule, a photon) between successive impacts or collisions. Essentially, the cavity found within the aerogel restricts the movement of the gas particles, decreasing the thermal conductivity in addition to eliminating convection (see above) as a source of heat energy.

As an aside, aerogels are very poor radiative insulators due to their low refractive index (see above). This is

because infrared radiation can pass easily through aerogels and transfer of heat is possible. Because of its hygroscopic (a property of tending to absorb moisture from the air) nature, aerogels feel dry and act as a strong desiccant or a hygroscopic substance used as a drying agent. Therefore, aerogels are characterized as hydrophilic, because they absorb moisture. As a result of water absorption, aerogels usually suffer a structural change, such as contraction, and can deteriorate. It is interesting to note, that aerogel degradation due to water absorption can be prevented by making them hydrophobic or tending to repel or fail to mix with water (via chemical treatment, such as silanization).

For examples of the chemical reaction involving the silanization chemical process (please refer to U.S. Patent No. 5,034,433 to Cohen, 1991), where in my laboratory research, I have silanated silica, silicon dioxide and titanium inorganic solid materials for fillers for dental polymer composites. Aerogels with hydrophobic interiors are less susceptible to water degradation. For this reason, handling aerogels for an extended period of time results in dry brittle spots on one's skin. Therefore, it is recommended that handling of aerogels should be performed using gloves for skin protection. Silica based aerogels are not known to be carcinogenic or toxic. Silica aerogels are a mechanical irritant to the eyes, skin, respiratory tract, and digestive system (Cryogel_5201_10201_MSDS.pdf). Silica aerogels can also induce dryness of the skin, eyes, and mucous membranes. Therefore, it is recommended that protective gear including respiratory protection, gloves and eye goggles be worn whenever handling or processing aerogels (Cryogel_5201_10201_MSDS.pdf).

The slight blue color seen for silica based aerogels (see Figure 1) is due to Rayleigh scattering of the shorter wavelengths of visible light (such as blue color wavelengths) by the nano-sized dendritic structure. Rayleigh scattering is the predominantly elastic scattering of light or other electromagnetic radiation by particles much smaller than the wavelength of the radiation. This phenomenon causes silica based aerogels to appear smoky blue against a dark background and yellowish against bright backgrounds. This electromagnetic range is also known as the visible (light) spectrum. The perception of color that is observed is derived from the stimulation of cone cells in the human eye by electromagnetic radiation.

The human eye is not capable of "seeing" radiation with wavelengths outside the visible spectrum. For example, electromagnetic radiation is characterized by its wavelength (or frequency). The visible colors of the spectrum from shortest to longest wavelength are: violet, blue (approximately 450 to 490 nm), green (approximately 520 to 560 nm), yellow (approximately 560 to 590 nm), orange, and red (approximately 635 to 700 nm) (Cohen & Cohen 2017). Interestingly, there are a number of blue holes that are found around the world in the ocean and sea waters. A blue hole (from my article entitled, "The Phenomenon of Blue Holes on Planet Earth: A Chemical Perspective" found in Phenomena Magazine) is a large marine sinkhole (a depression and/or hole in the ground caused by some form of collapse of the surface layer) or cavern (a natural void in the ground) (Cohen, 2019).

Blue light is the most enduring part of the spectrum. The other parts of the visible spectrum; red, yellow, and finally green are absorbed during their path through the ocean and sea water, into the Blue hole, and only blue light manages to reach the white sand containing calcium carbonate and return upon reflection. Thus, this is the cause of the blue color that emanates or originates from the Blue hole. This effect is similar to that found for the observed blue color for silica aerogels. The opposite effect occurs when white (pure) light is passed through a prism (please refer to the article entitled, "Non-Duality: A Prism as a Metaphor or a Representation for "Ego"

Consciousness" found in the June 2017 issue of Phenomena Magazine) and a rainbow of different colors (for example, six main bands of colors; red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet) are observed (Cohen & Cohen 2017). A prism is a glass or other transparent object that is triangular with refracting surfaces. It is interesting to note, that different aerogels have different observed colors associated with them. For example, iron oxide (or ferric oxide is an inorganic compound with the chemical formula Fe₂O₃) aerogels have a red (rust) or yellow, opaque color, whereas Chromia (with the chemical formula Cr₂O₃) aerogels have a deep green or deep blue opaque color (aerogel.org/?p=44).

APPLICATIONS OF AEROGELS

Since aerogels have such diverse chemical and physical properties (see above), it is no surprise that they also have a wider range of useful applications. Since the 1960's, aerogel (silica) has been used as the insulating material in the spacesuits of NASA astronauts (due to their superior thermal insulator properties). Interestingly, NASA has used aerogels to capture space dust. Aerogel is being used in conjunction with the 'Stardust' mission and "Wild 2" (dust collected from comets), which aims to bring back particles from space from beyond the moon for the first time (azom.com). Aerogels are able to capture space dust.

When the particle hits the aerogel, it will be travelling at speeds of up to 6 times that of a rifle bullet. Most chemical substances would not be able to slow the dust down without heating, which would result in an alteration to the dust sample collected. Aerogel however, will allow the dust to bury itself into the porous solid aerogel material and the dust collected is gradually brought to a stop as the dust loses momentum. Thus, making aerogels the prime material for space dust collection.

Other important applications include; insulations (building structures) and nanotechnology. Aerogels are also a must-have material in the insulation industry and have been used for several years in cavity injected wall insulation and insulating boards (azom.com). Both transparent and opaque silica aerogel based insulation has tremendous potential to displace older technologies such as mineral wool, fiberglass, foams and polyurethanes. The use of aerogel in this way is extremely energy efficient and environmentally beneficial, as it will significantly cut the use of fossil fuel, used for heating. From a nanotechnology perspective, silica aerogels will continue to serve as the staple substrate for scientists seeking to develop nanotechnologies which rely on high surface areas or nanoporosity. Chemical and biological sensors will benefit from silica aerogel

based technologies in the coming years and decades (azom.com). The future applications for aerogels will result in innovations which will have far reaching benefits for our planet and its inhabitants. ■

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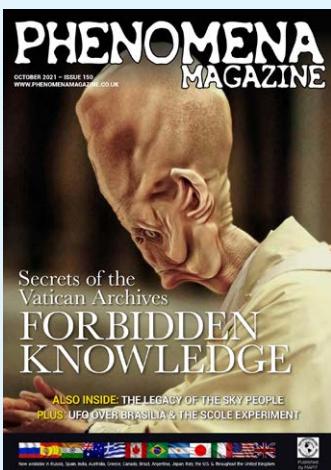
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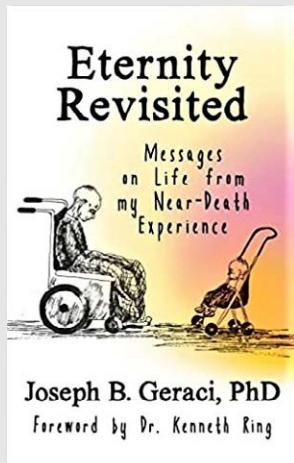
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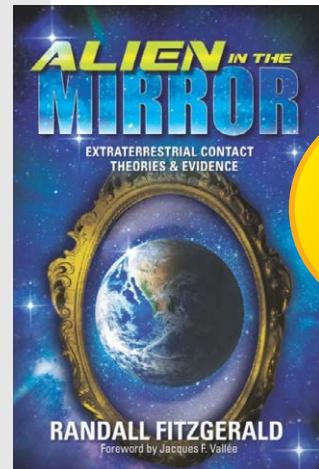
BOOK REVIEWS



ETERNITY REVISITED

The near death Experience (NDE) is nowadays pretty much accepted as being real and there are many; thousands in fact, accounts of the phenomena given by those who have experienced it and this book is one in a long line. In this case the author, a former police officer and a professor of psychology, decided that his experience was so significant that he had to share it, perhaps to bring comfort to the bereaved and also to those who are dying. In this case the author's NDE came about when he suffered a severe internal bleed and was rushed into hospital. When he had his NDE he was not aware that this phenomenon can occur and as a result did not know quite what to make of it all, but he soon learned. As with others who have experienced this, it changed him and amongst other things he started to lecture on the subject. He also finds it odd that science in general continues to ignore the phenomenon, choosing instead to blame it on fundamental changes in human physiology that occur when the body starts to shut down in preparation for physical death and, to be fair, there is an element of truth in this, but the NDE is clearly 'something else entirely'. In fact this is very much the case when/if someone experiences their first 'lucid dream', when they are well aware that they are dreaming, but are in full control of the dream. The book is well written and concise, but for this reviewer it is just one of many telling variations on the same theme.

Author: Joseph B. Geraci, PhD.
Publisher: White Crow **Price:** £9.99
ISBN: 978-1-7867-7171-1



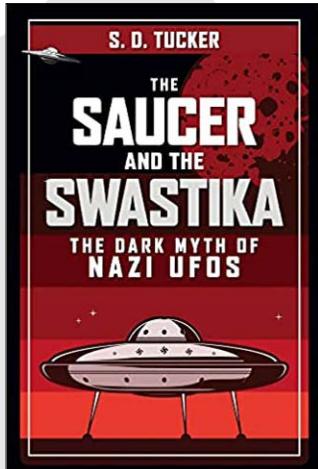
BOOK
OF THE
MONTH

ALIEN IN THE MIRROR

For independent-minded readers, those who want all of the theories and supporting evidence to make up their own minds, *Alien in the Mirror* brings refreshing clarity and sanity to a topic long shrouded in smoke and mirror confusion. Encyclopedic in its scope and mind-expandingly rich in its detail, this book is destined to be a classic, written by an investigative reporter, Randall Fitzgerald, who has studied the alien contact phenomenon for over five decades. All aspects of this controversial subject are comprehensively covered—ancient astronaut theories, UFOs and UFO occupants, contactees and abductees, the ideas of skeptics and debunkers, and the SETI science program and its detractors. Each of the five sections open with new findings and stunning revelations from the author's own thorough investigations. It presents a fascinating definitive history of the phenomenon, giving readers objective and essential information that challenges us to reexamine what we think we know about our consensus reality. As the legendary theorist and scientist Jacques F. Vallée writes in his Foreword to *Alien in the Mirror*: "This book will stand as testimony to a well-traveled road of investigation and wonder. We should acknowledge it with gratitude, not only for its neat classification of complex events, but for the hope it gives us of a long-delayed, much welcome re-awakening of the true spirit of science after seventy years of slumber."

Authors: Randall Fitzgerald
Publisher: Waterside Productions **Price:** £17.25
ISBN: 978-1-9578-0700-3

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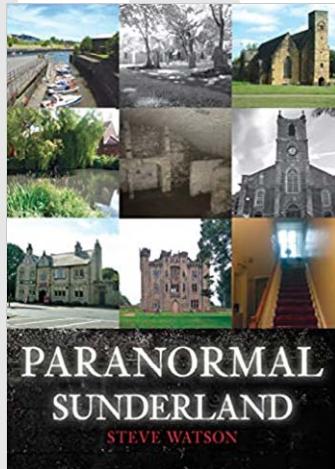
THE SAUCER AND THE SWASTIKA: THE DARK MYTH OF NAZI UFO'S

In many ways this is one of the best-researched and important books I have read recently and if it was not for the flashes of ironic humour liberally sprinkled through it, it would also be deeply-worrying and unsettling. This book is not just about the supposed Nazi 'Wunderwaffe' or wonder-weapons, including the supposed 'Nazi UFO's', it also takes a deep dive into the mindset and incredible philosophy at the outer edges of the Nazi mindset and what it sets out is often nigh-on unbelievable and literally mind-numbing. One of the chapters is called 'Tyrannosaurus Sex' and describes the lunatic philosophy of Jorg Lanz von Liebenfels, who, amazingly, managed to attract a following for his revolting dino-porn...worse yet, he actually believed it, as did his followers. It's the truly strange facts like these that pepper the book that make it a really fascinating and immensely readable one-off. Did these Nazi UFO's ever get made and were they ever a real threat to the Allies? You'll have to read the book to find out. One thing I do disagree with, however, is how the author treats Joseph P Farrell, because Farrell has gone to great lengths to show that much of today's technology did NOT come from UFOs (crashed or otherwise), but from Nazi technology appropriated by the USA under the scandalous terms of Operation Paperclip...but that's another story. Overall this is truly splendid book that just deserves to be read.

Author: S.D. Tucker

Publisher: Amberley Publishing **Price:** £20

ISBN: 978-1-3981-0538-6



PARANORMAL SUNDERLAND

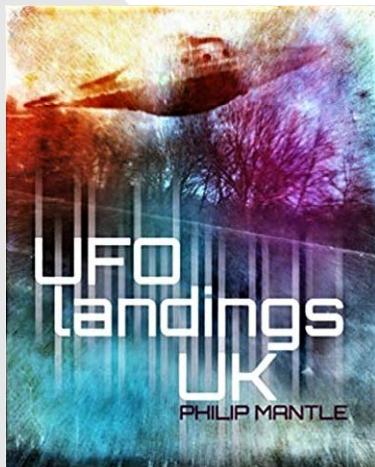
As soon as the reader picks up this book they know immediately that it is a quality product, everything from the 'feel' of the paper to the abundant images and text are all a bit 'special', but then again this is an Amberley publication so you would expect nothing less. As to the subject matter, well, the paranormal is a subject that continually manages to fascinate and terrify in equal measure and in this case the author, Steve Watson, a local lad and resident of Newcastle takes a trawl through the hidden, supernatural world of Sunderland. In fact one can pretty much open the book at random and something of interest is sure to emerge. It's all here, pubs, churches, cemeteries, old buildings, (the Souter Lighthouse is a case in point), theatres (always a splendid source of ghostly sightings) and even a Masonic Lodge and the local football stadium (the Stadium of Light which is home to Sunderland Football Club). All have their own ghost (or two). Two of the most interesting accounts appear in Chapters 13 and 23, one is a pub called The Shipwrights Arms and the other involves the curiously named 'Spottee's Cave', which is near Roker Beach. Both of the phantoms associated with these locations are the stuff of nightmares and therefore ideal for inclusion in this book. Overall, this publication would be an ideal companion and guide for anyone considering exploring the ghostly history of Sunderland. Highly recommended.

Author: Steve Watson

Publisher: Amberley Publishing **Price:** £15.99

ISBN: 978-1-3981-1051-9

BOOK REVIEWS



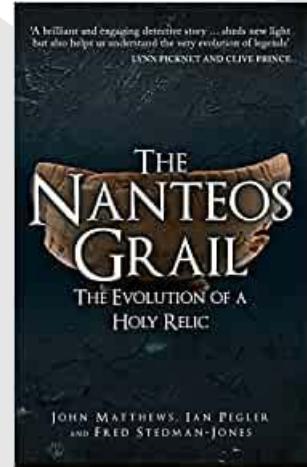
UFO LANDINGS UK

This is a magnificent tribute to Ufology in the UK, a subject that has largely been sidelined in favour of the USA and elsewhere. As it says at end of the introduction 'The following cases are the result of something extraordinary and not the ordinary', how very true that is. This reviewer was surprised to see that the first report dates from 1767 (happily in my country of Scotland) and continues right up to the present day. It was really enjoyable to read of encounters that were absolutely new to me and I have been around the subject for many, many years, perhaps too many. Many of the accounts originate from the bulging files of the British UFO research Association (BUFORA), with whom the author was closely involved, while others come from the authors own files plus those of individuals like Steve Mera and John Hanson, who have had more than their fair share of encounters of all kinds. Yes, some of the classic encounters are represented here, e.g. Robert Taylor's famous Dechmont Woods encounter, and included in the abundant illustrations is a shot of the famous trousers that were worn by Taylor (now deceased) and ripped while it took place. But more importantly it is the other encounters that really enthral, because they happened to people who had no previous knowledge of the subject and the effect on them was often disturbing and profound. Overall, this is an unmissable addition to the canon of material about a subject that still confuses and confounds in equal measure.

Author: Philip Mantle

Publisher: Flying Disk Press **Price:** £13.99

ISBN: 979-8-6545-3796-6



THE NANTEOS GRAIL

This fascinating new release casts a fresh light on one of the most enigmatic objects that exists here in the UK and that is the 'Nanteos Grail', also known as the 'Nanteos Healing Cup'. This object is closely linked to the fabled Holy Grail, the very Cup of Christ that was used at The Last Supper; in fact some insist that it is in fact the Grail Cup. The legend surrounding this object is long and convoluted and goes back to the time of King Arthur, it also includes stories of apparently miraculous cures attributed to the now-damaged small wooden vessel from the who have taken a drink from it. The authors are careful to point out that these miraculous 'cures' are probably the result of the placebo effect, which is powerful in its own right, but what if they are not? The cup, which in 2014 was stolen from a house in Herefordshire and was eventually returned to its rightful owners, is in fact a medieval wooden mazer bowl, which was kept for many years at the Nanteos Mansion, and now resides National Library of Wales, at Aberystwyth. To be honest the Nanteos grail/cup looks pretty beaten up, which is a result of those who have drunk from it over the years biting off tiny slivers of the wood it is made of. Presumably this was to assist with the cure they hope to achieve; besides, if it really is the actual cup of Christ they had purloined a piece of the most powerful sacred talisman that is still with us. Overall this book provides a fascinating insight into an object that may (or may not) have powerful religious significance and is a delight to read.

Authors: John Matthews, Ian Pegler, Fred Stedman-Jones

Publisher: Amberley Publishing **Price:** £16.99

ISBN: 978-1-3981-0622-2

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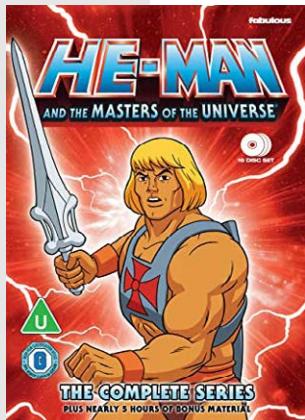
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FILM REVIEWS



MAIN CAST: John Erwin, Alan Oppenheimer, Linda Gary, Eric Grunden

DIRECTORS: Various

AVAILABLE: £39.99 (DVD)

He-Man and The Masters of the Universe (U)

FABULOUS FILMS

Anyone who grew up in the 1980's cannot but help having come across this remarkable cartoon character on TV. They will also recall the stirring cry of 'By the Power of Greyskull...I have the Power', and the galactic superhero He-Man drew his sword did battle with the nasty, sneaky, super-villain Skeletor. This reviewer saw the shows and remembers it this with some affection. The tales have lost none of their power and continue to impress

and entertain. This collection has it all, 130 episodes, a full length movie, a Christmas Special and loads of bonus features and at one time in a comic version He-Man teamed up with Superman He also had an action figure made that the fans could buy. In fact the franchise earned the toy company Mattel over a billion dollars. For the fan (they still appear in full costume at comicons) this is an absolute must-have. It's not cheap, but it's well worth the money.



MAIN CAST: Melendy Britt, George DiCenzo, Linda Gary, Erika Schemer, Lou Scheimer

DIRECTORS: Various

AVAILABLE: £32.99 (DVD)

She-Ra: Princess of Power (U)

FABULOUS FILMS

This character appeared in the 1980's as a natural spin off from the He-Man franchise and since Superman had a female counterpart, so should He-Man. As with He-Man, the Princess Adora had a secret phrase of power, in this case, 'For The Honour of Greyskull...I am She-Ra' and she is transformed into the titular heroine. The set consists of 93 episodes plus bonus features spread over 12 discs and the plot is pretty straightforward. It concerns the adventures of Princess Adora, who is He-Man's twin sister, and leads a group of freedom fighters known as the Great Rebellion in the fight

to free Etheria from the tyrannical rule of the evil Hordak (another iteration of He-Man's foe Skeletor) and his thugs. With her magical Sword of Protection, Adora can transform into She-Ra. Princess Adora had been kidnapped at birth by Hordak and taken to Etheria. There she served as a mind-controlled Horde Force Captain until her brother (He-Man) rescued her. After reuniting with her parents on Eternia, She-Ra returns to Etheria and leads the Great Rebellion. This should be ideal fare for the kids...and it's not all that unremittingly violent either.

Phenomena Magazine regularly receive DVDs from producers and distributors and we provide a review of the movie / documentary by promoting and advertising them within our magazine. If you would like to have your DVD reviewed and advertised, simply contact *Phenomena Magazine* via our website or send your DVD direct to *Phenomena Magazine* Head Office.

THE LIGHT WITHIN A HUMAN HEART

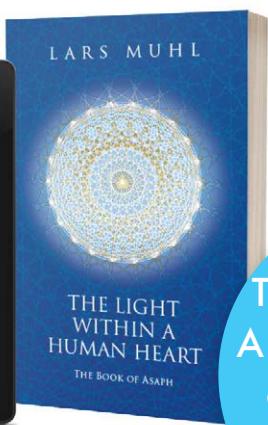
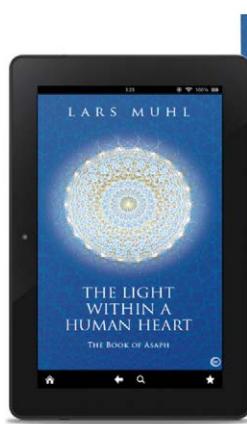
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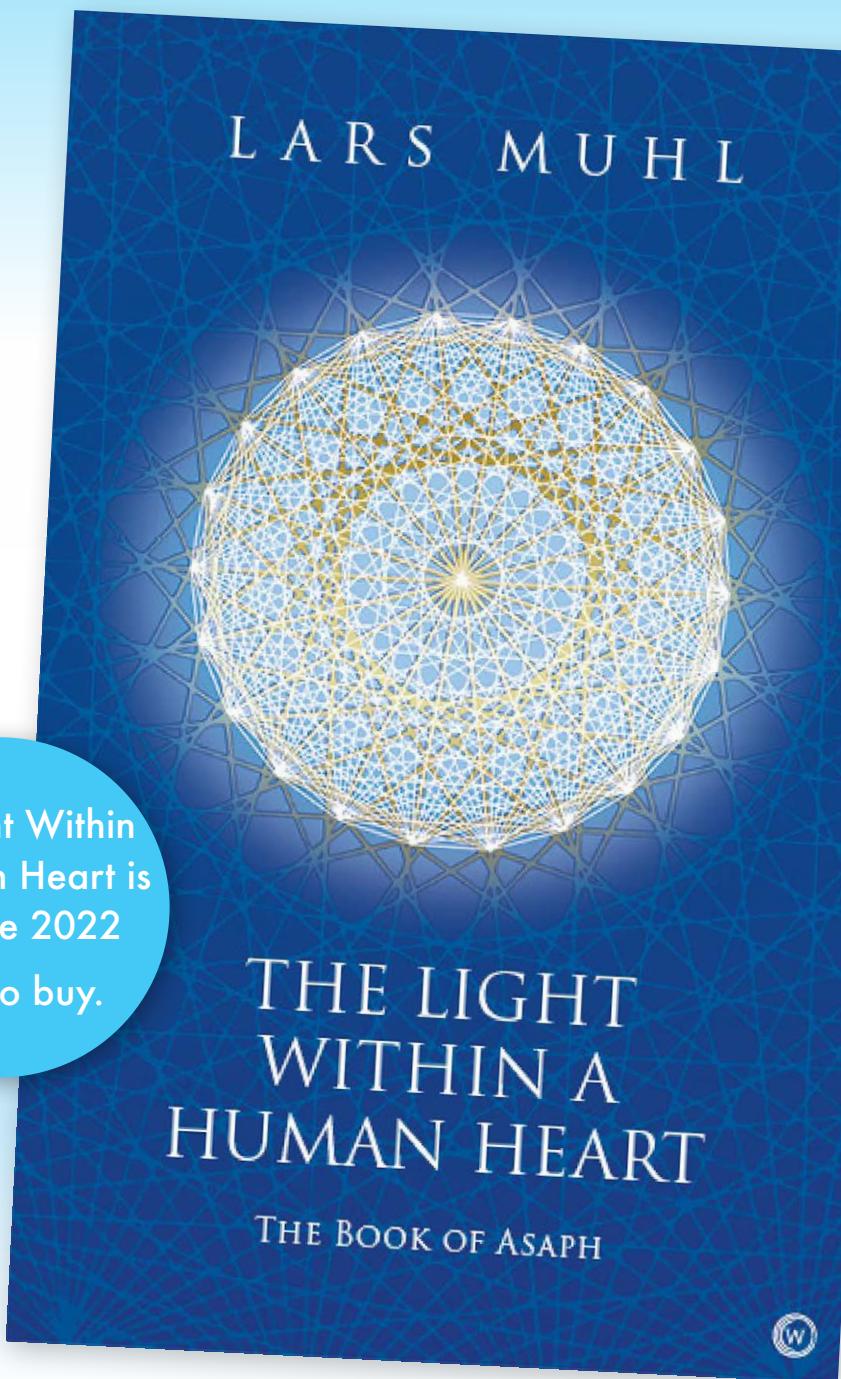
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Lars Muhl is a Danish mystic, musician and bestselling author. Since his youth he has studied the spiritual traditions of the world. In 1996 he was struck down by an unexplained sickness. A telephone call put him in touch with the seer Calle de Montségur, who got him out of bed and by whom he was an apprentice until the seer's death in 2007. Lars' previous books include *The O Manuscript* and *The Law of Light*.





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Helpful Research Information: June Celestial Events (Info Courtesy of Sea Sky)

June 14

Full Moon, Supermoon

The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 11:52 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Strawberry Moon because it signaled the time of year to gather ripening fruit. It also coincides with the peak of the strawberry harvesting season. This moon has also been known as the Rose Moon and the Honey Moon. This is also the first of three supermoons for 2022. The Moon will be near its closest approach to the Earth and may look slightly larger and brighter than usual.

June 16

Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation

The planet Mercury reaches greatest western elongation of 23.2 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky. Look for the planet low in the eastern sky just before sunrise.

June 21

June Solstice

The June solstice occurs at 09:05 UTC. The North Pole of the earth will be tilted toward the Sun, which will have reached its northernmost position in the sky and will be directly over the Tropic of Cancer at 23.44 degrees north latitude. This is the first day of summer (summer solstice) in

the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of winter (winter solstice) in the Southern Hemisphere.

June 29

New Moon

The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This phase occurs at 02:53 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.



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ZEN OF BEN



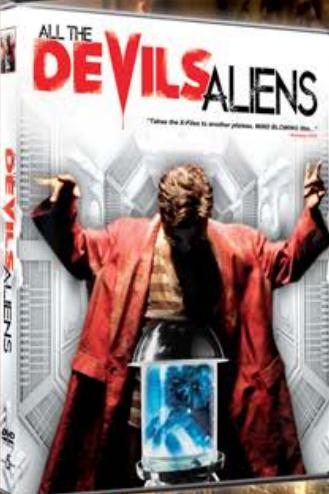
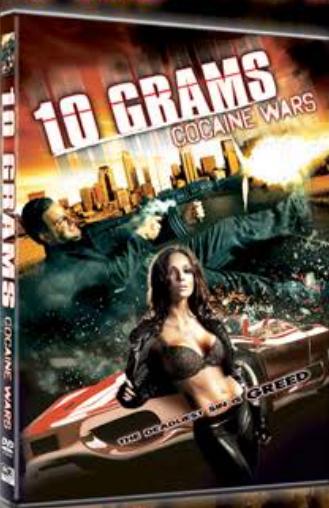
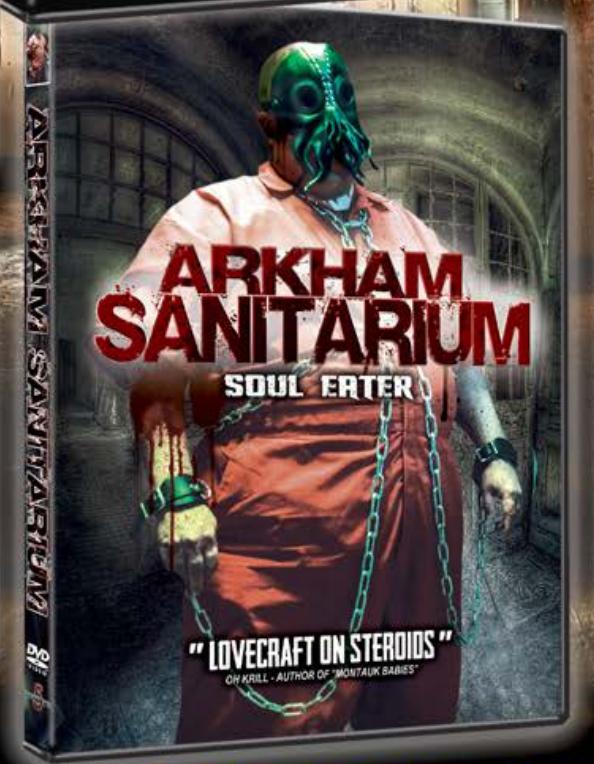
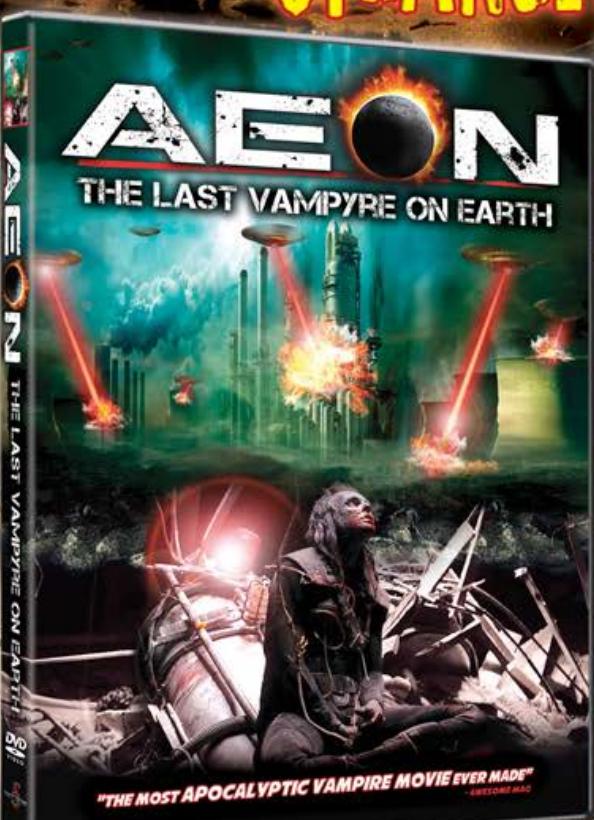
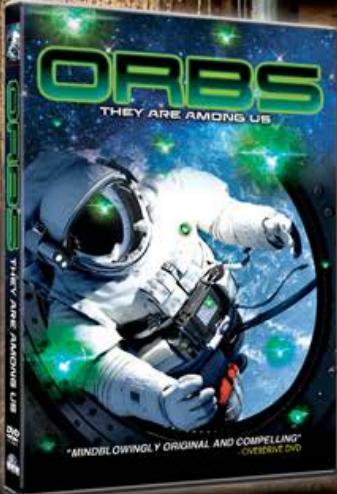
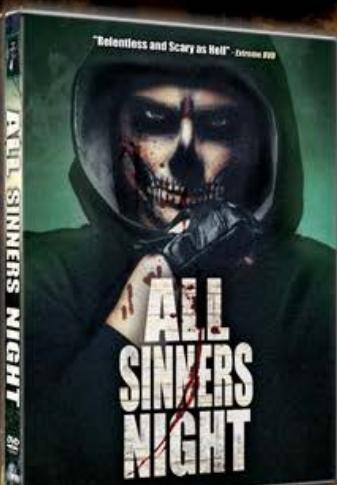


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PARANORMAL NEWS

NEWS ITEMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
MAY 2022

DYSON SPHERES: THE KEY TO RESURRECTION AND IMMORTALITY?

SOURCE: BIGTHINK.COM

Is there an afterlife? Despite centuries of inquiry, nobody's made progress on this fundamental question, and perhaps nobody ever will. So, maybe a better question is: Can humans create an afterlife?

Some scientists think so. In 2018, Alexey Turchin and Maxim Chernyakov, both members of the Russian Transhumanist Movement, wrote a paper outlining the main ways science might someday make immortality and resurrection possible. Called the "Immortality Roadmap," the project describes the ways people might be able to extend lifespan or live forever, from using cryonics to freeze themselves, to constructing nanobots for "treatment of injuries and cell cyborgization."

But the Immortality Roadmap mentions one particularly grandiose road to immortality. Outlined in "Plan C" of the project, the idea is to create a simulation of humanity's past through artificial intelligence that's able to digitally reconstruct people.

The AI would use DNA and other information about individuals to create models of those individuals within a simulation, allowing recently deceased people to experience another chance at life — or, at least an approximation of life.

"The main idea of a resurrection-simulation is that if one takes the DNA of a past person and subjects it to the same developmental condition, as well as correcting the development based on some known outcomes, it is possible to create a model of a past person which is very close to the original," the researchers wrote.

"DNA samples of most people who lived in past 1 to 2 centuries could be extracted via global archeology. After the moment of death, the simulated person is moved into some form of the afterlife, perhaps similar to his



religious expectations, where he meets his relatives."

Of course, these are questions that Immortality Roadmap can't answer. But what's clear is that, if technology ever becomes able to create a "resurrection simulation," it's going to require vast amounts of computing power — far more than what currently exists on Earth. That's where Dyson spheres come into play.

In 1960, the theoretical physicist Freeman Dyson published a paper describing a peculiar strategy scientists could use to detect signs of alien life: look for stars encompassed by gigantic megastructures.

Why? Dyson figured that if spacefaring alien civilizations do exist, then they must have figured out a way to generate vast amounts of energy. One theoretical way aliens could do that is through harnessing the power of stars: By surrounding a star with orbiting structures that capture solar energy, a civilization could theoretically generate far more energy than they could on a planet.

That's the basic idea behind Dyson spheres. Of course, modern science is far

from being able to build such a complex megastructure, and it's unclear whether it'll ever be possible.

"An actual sphere around the sun is completely impractical," Stuart Armstrong, a research fellow at Oxford University's Future of Humanity Institute who has studied megastructure concepts, told *Popular Mechanics* in 2020.

There are many questions about and arguments against the feasibility of Dyson spheres. Obviously, our modern engineering capabilities wouldn't enable us to build a structure that big and complex, and then transport it to the sun. And even if engineers could build an enormous sun shell, we don't have materials with enough tensile strength to hold together the structure once it's surrounding the sun.

Other potential problems: space debris colliding with the sphere, inefficiencies in transporting the energy back to Earth, and having to perform maintenance on a megastructure that's dangerously close to the sun. In short, the Dyson sphere is a very theoretical concept.

Click [here](#) for the full article

SCIENTISTS SHINE NEW LIGHT ON ROLE OF EARTH'S ORBIT IN THE FATE OF ANCIENT ICE SHEETS

SOURCE: PHYS.ORG

In a new study published in the journal *Science*, the team from Cardiff University has been able to pinpoint exactly how the tilting and wobbling of the Earth as it orbits around the Sun has influenced the melting of ice sheets in the Northern Hemisphere over the past 2 million years or so.

Scientists have long been aware that the waxing and waning of massive Northern Hemisphere ice sheets results from changes in the geometry of Earth's orbit around the Sun.

There are two aspects of the Earth's geometry that can influence the melting of ice sheets: obliquity and precession.

Obliquity is the angle of the Earth's tilt as it travels around the Sun and is the reason why we have different seasons.

Precession is how the Earth wobbles as it rotates, much like a slightly off-center spinning top. The angle of this wobble means that sometimes the Northern Hemisphere is closest to the Sun and other times the Southern Hemisphere is closest, meaning that roughly every 10,000 years one hemisphere will have warmer summers compared to the other, before switching.

Scientists have determined that over the past million years or so, the combined effects of obliquity and precession on the waxing and waning of Northern Hemisphere ice sheets has resulted, through complicated interactions within the climate system, in ice age cycles lasting approximately 100 thousand years.

However, before 1 million years ago, in a period known as the early



©Pixabay

Pleistocene, the duration of ice age cycles was controlled only by obliquity and these ice age cycles were almost exactly 41,000 years long.

For decades, scientists have been puzzled as to why precession did not play a more important part in driving ice age cycles during this period.

In their new study, the Cardiff University team reveal new evidence suggesting that precession did actually play a role during the early Pleistocene.

Their results show that more intense summers, driven by precession, have always caused Northern Hemisphere ice sheets to melt, but before 1 million years ago, these events were less devastating and did not lead to the complete collapse of ice sheets.

Lead author of the study Professor Stephen Barker, from Cardiff University's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, says that "early Pleistocene ice sheets in the northern hemisphere

were smaller than their more recent counterparts, and limited to higher latitudes where the effects of obliquity dominate over precession. This probably explains why it has taken so long for us to find evidence of precession forcing during early Pleistocene."

"These findings are the culmination of a major effort, involving more than 12 years of painstaking work in the laboratory to process nearly 10,000 samples and the development of a range of new analytical approaches. Thanks to this we can finally put to rest a long-standing problem in paleoclimatology and ultimately contribute to a better understanding of Earth's climate system."

"Improving our understanding of Earth's climate dynamics, even in the remote past, is crucial if we hope to predict changes over the next century and beyond. Ongoing changes may be manmade, but there's only one climate system and we need to understand it."

A RARE BOOK PREDICTING ALIEN LIFE COULD SELL FOR THOUSANDS AT AUCTION.

SOURCE: BBC NEWS

A book, published in 1698, was found at a free antique valuation event in Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, by books valuer Jim Spencer.

Inside, author Christiaan Huygens explores his fascination with the potential existence of extra-terrestrial beings.

Mr Spencer said its contents seemed "almost comical". The book, lengthily entitled *The Celestial World Discover'd: Or, Conjectures Concerning the Inhabitants, Plants and Productions of the Worlds in the Planets*, Huygens questions why God

would have created other planets "just to be looked" upon from Earth.

He concludes that aliens must have hands and feet like humans because of their "convenience", writing: "What could we invent or imagine that could be so exactly accommodated to all the design'd uses as the Hands are? Shall we give them an Elephant's Proboscis."

He also suggests that "celestial beings" must have feet "[unless] they have found out the art of flying in some of those Worlds".

The writer believed aliens enjoyed astronomy and observation, sailed boats and listened to music but also suffered misfortunes, wars, afflictions and poverty "because that's what leads us to invention and progress".

The book is considered such a rare find that it will have a guide price of £2,000-£3,000 when it goes to auction in July.

Mr Spencer said: "It's fascinating to think who turned these pages in 1698, what they must've felt when reading these descriptions of life on Jupiter or Saturn."

THE MILITARY'S UFO DATABASE NOW HAS INFO FROM OVER 400 REPORTED INCIDENTS

SOURCE: NPR.ORG



©Alex Brandon/AP

Adatabase of reports of UFOs now includes about 400 incidents, up from 143 assessed in a report released about a year ago, a Navy intelligence official told lawmakers at a congressional hearing on Tuesday.

The military's 2021 report said no evidence of aliens had been found. Scott W. Bray, the deputy director of Naval intelligence, told lawmakers that they still haven't uncovered anything "nonterrestrial in origin," even though there are incidents they can't explain.

None of the documented objects had attempted to communicate with U.S. aviators, and no attempt had been made to communicate with them, he said, as they all appeared to be unmanned.

Reports of unidentified flying objects – now called unexplained aerial phenomena or UAPs by the military – have been increasing, said Bray. He cited improved sensors, an increase in drones and other non-military unmanned aerial systems, and "aerial clutter" such as Mylar balloons as causes for the uptick.

Incidents in the 2021 report date as far back as 2004 and were based on both sensor data and observations by military aviators, said Bray.

Many of the latest entries do not have sensor data – they're from people coming forward with older stories that they chose not to report at the time, Bray said. That's evidence that the military's drive to

destigmatize such reports is working, he added.

"Navy and air force crews now have step-by-step procedures for reporting UAPs on their kneeboard, in the cockpit," Bray said.

It's an important effort, said Rep. Andre Carson, D-Ind., who noted that skepticism around UFOs likely has led pilots to avoid making the reports, or getting laughed at when they did.

Tuesday's session, the first public hearing on UFOs in more than 50 years, also included testimony from Ronald S. Moultrie, the Pentagon's top intelligence official. He noted the competing needs for transparency and secrecy in the hearing.

Moultrie noted that he's a science fiction fan, and that simple human curiosity means that "we want to know what's out there just like you want to know what's out there." But he added that his top goal was to keep U.S. military personnel and bases safe.

"We are also mindful of our obligation to protect sensitive sources and methods,"

Moultrie said in his opening remarks. "Our goal is to strike that delicate balance – one that will enable us to maintain the public's trust while preserving those capabilities that are vital to the support of our service personnel."

"We do not want potential adversaries to know exactly what we see or understand," Moultrie said later in the hearing, which was followed by a closed-door, classified session.

As the effort moves forward, Moultrie told lawmakers, a major focus will be on improving cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration and other government agencies.

In a back-and-forth with Rep. Brad Wenstrup, R-Ohio, Bray agreed that standardizing the civilian reporting process would also be useful. While the military's database does include some civilian reports, the vast majority have come from within the military.

It's the first congressional hearing held on the subject since a push by then-Rep. Gerald Ford led to a hearing in 1969.

“While the military's database does include some civilian reports, the vast majority have come from within the military.

SCIENTISTS HAVE CREATED ICE-19, A BRAND NEW STATE OF MATTER

SOURCE: SCI-NATURE.COM

A new study by a team at the University of Chicago, published in the October 14, 2021 issue of the journal *Nature Physics*, reports on the creation of a new phase of ice called "superionic ice". Turns out, the ice that tinkles in our glasses of Coke, known as Ih, is actually just one of at least 19 different phases of ice.

Formed from water, ice is comprised of only hydrogen and oxygen atoms in the famous H₂O configuration of two hydrogen atoms attached to one oxygen atom.

One intriguing idea is that ice may become superionic when heated at very high temperatures and pressures. This exotic state would contain liquid-like hydrogen ions moving within a solid lattice of oxygen.

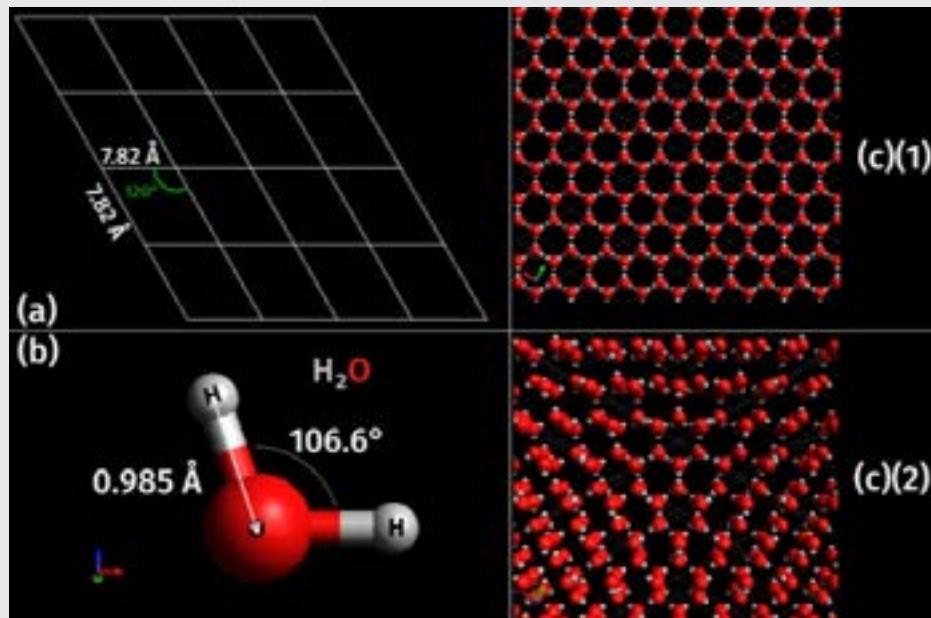
Superionic ice was first predicted in 1988, and since then a number of research groups have used simulation and static compression techniques to try and study this phase of ice.

The first experimental evidence for superionic water ice came from a 2018 study by scientists from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), UC Berkeley, and the University of Rochester. They first sandwiched a droplet of water between two diamonds that functioned like miniature anvils, squeezing the droplet with 2.5 GPa of pressure (25 thousand atmospheres). This "pre-compressed" water into the room-temperature ice VII, a cubic crystalline form of ice.

The team then shifted to the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics where they bombarded one of the diamonds with up to six intense beams of UV light. This launched strong shock waves of several hundred GPa into the sample, to compress and heat the ice at the same time. The result verified the existence of super-ionic ice but was only able to create it for a few nanoseconds before it melted away - not long enough to measure its properties.

In a more recent study, conducted in 2019, the team was able to create a more stable form of the ice by squeezing a water droplet with a 0.2-carat diamond anvil and blasting it with a laser, pressurizing the droplet to 3.5 million times Earth's atmospheric pressure at temperatures hotter than the surface of the sun. The ice was the eighteenth form to be discovered, and so was named Ice XVIII ("Ice 18").

In Ice XVIII, oxygen atoms in the droplet



took up stationary positions, while the hydrogen atoms, which were stripped of their electrons thus turning them into positively charged ions, were free to flow throughout the ice, acting like a fluid. The free-flowing ions blocked all light from passing through the ice, making the ice black in color.

The work published in 2021 by the team in Chicago used similar methods to elucidate what may be another phase of superionic ice. They squeezed water droplets in a diamond anvil to pressures of 20 GPa, and shoot lasers through the diamonds to heat the sample up. Finally, they sent a beam of X-rays through the sample, and pieced together the arrangement of the atoms inside the superionic ice by observing how the X-rays scattered off the sample.

The positively-charged, free-flowing hydrogen ions in superionic ice also create a magnetic field, and this is highly interesting to scientists because many icy bodies in our solar system, such as Neptune, Uranus, and Jupiter's moons, Europa, Io, and Ganymede, have magnetic fields. Scientists are now wondering if those magnetic fields are caused by the presence of superionic ice in the cores of those bodies.

This question is vital since a planet's magnetic field, or magnetosphere, is what prevents dangerous cosmic rays and UV radiation from reaching a planet's surface and obliterating all life. If superionic ice is common in the cores of planets outside our solar system, that would make the

possibility of life on other planets that much more likely.

The different phases of ice are differentiated by their crystalline structure, or the ordering of their protons, and also by their density. The most common ice on Earth, Ih, occurs when liquid water is cooled to below 32 ° F, 0 ° C, or 273.15 ° K at standard atmospheric pressure.

In 1963, famed writer Kurt Vonnegut published a novel entitled *Cat's Cradle*. It is a strange amalgam of science, technology, the cold war, and religion. It concerns a writer who travels to the hometown of a fictional Nobel Prize winner physicist named Felix Hoenikker to determine what Hoenikker was doing on the day the U.S. dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima, August 6, 1945.

The writer soon learns from Hoenikker's three adult children that the famous scientist had been playing the string game "Cat's Cradle" on that fateful day. The writer also learns that Hoenikker has created a mysterious substance called Ice-9, which is a phase of ice that remains solid at room temperature and won't melt until the temperature reaches 114.4 ° F.

The real Ice-9 wasn't discovered until 1968, five years after Vonnegut's book was published. Gratefully, it doesn't have any of the pernicious attributes of its fictional counterpart, and we're not going to tell you what happens in the book if the fictional Ice-9 ends all life on Earth, but it does make you wonder about new phases of ice yet to be discovered.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

US AIRCRAFT CARRIER 'STALKED BY 40FT BALL OF FIRE UFO SEEN BY HUNDREDS OF CREW IN BIGGEST MODERN MASS SIGHTING'

SOURCE: THE SUN

A **UFO** was allegedly seen by hundreds of military witnesses as it hovered over the deck of a nuclear-powered US Navy aircraft carrier, former crewmen have claimed.

The USS Ronald Reagan is said to have been the scene of what may be one of the most extraordinary UFO encounters in US military history as a 40-foot orange ball of light appeared near the ship.

It comes as US officials are increasingly opening up about the fact there have been a string of unknown and unexplained incidents near warships and military installations.

And the Pentagon now appears to be taking the UFO issue more seriously, with a new dedicated office signed into law last year following a landmark report by the Department of Defence.

With bombshell videos showing fighter planes observing strange objects in the sky, the reports of the encounter over the USS Ronald Reagan are the latest to be revealed by servicemen.

And it comes as next week there will be historic hearings in Washington DC on UFOs - now more commonly referred to as Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP).

Documentary filmmaker Dave C. Beaty - who produced 2019 film The Nimitz Encounters about the famous 2004 US Navy encounter with the "Tic Tac" object - has been investigating the case.

And he has helped former navy quartermaster Karol Olesiak and his shipmates to come forward about what happened that night off the East Coast of the US in 2004.

Mr Olesiak - who was in active service from 2002 to 2006 - was aboard the USS Ronald Reagan and was stationed on the watch.

He was on the carrier's central island when he saw the giant floating orange orb at around 8pm.

The quartermaster estimated the object was up to 40 foot across - hovering over the flight deck - and he says hundreds of people working on the deck must have seen the phenomena.

The UFO was near ship - which was travelling around 22 knots - for around four hours, according to Mr Olesiak.

And he said there was an eerie calm amongst the senior officers and bridge crew - as if they had seen such a phenomena before.



"The entire bridge team was pilots. My assumption is yes [they had seen something similar before], but I asked an officer if any of them were talking about it the next day and he said 'yes,'" the former US Navy sailor told The Sun Online.

The orb - or "the thing" - remained near the supercarrier until Mr Olesiak's watch came to an end and he was relieved by another crewman.

He described it as reminding him of Biblical descriptions of the "burning bush" and having "negative energy".

Mr Olesiak believes its "possible" someone may have taken photos and videos of the object - but the incident occurred before camera phones were common and crew did not carry their mobiles.

"It's hard to believe somebody would be sitting on it for this long," he told The Sun Online.

"All the people on the flight decks [would have seen it], it was 8pm, it wasn't like the whole ship was asleep - at least 300 people," Mr Olesiak told Mr Beaty's YouTube channel The Nimitz Encounters.

Mr Beaty said the encounter could be one of the "the biggest mass sightings" of a UFO in modern history, with Mr Olesiak adding he is surprised it has not come out before.

It is latest UFO encounter to have been reported near to a US nuclear asset, following reports of similar objects near missile bases and other nuclear-powered warships.

US military personnel have spoken out about these encounters as the UFO issue takes centre stage in Washington DC.

USS Ronald Reagan was the ninth in class of the supercarriers - and had a crew of 5,680 sailors, an airwing of 2,480, and 80 warplanes.

The 101,000 ton, 1,092 feet long vessel is powered by two nuclear reactors - making her maiden active deployment in 2006.

Other crew members Patrick Gokey and Derrick Smith have also said they saw something that night aboard the USS Ronald Reagan.

Mr Gokey reportedly saw the object when it moved round to the rear of the ship flying in "half circles" before taking off "super fast".

And meanwhile Mr Smith, who was on the starboard watch, reported seeing the object and noticing "all the people on the flight deck" looking up at the phenomena.

The three shipmates have no idea what the strange object was - and Mr Olesiak claims they were told not to report the incident in the ship's log.

He puts this down to a culture of stigma within the US military when it came to reporting UFOs.

"There is an immune system against fairy dust in the military," he said.

However, there is a disagreement between the three witnesses on the duration of the encounter - with accounts ranging from minutes to hours.

And the exact date of the encounter is unknown - but it is believed to have occurred in early 2004.

The incident occurred while the new nuclear-powered carrier was undergoing a shakedown before being moved into active service.

'WOW!' SIGNAL LIKELY ORIGINATED FROM HABITABLE SOLAR SYSTEM

SOURCE: CURIOSMOS

Scientists have been baffled by the "Wow!" signal since it was discovered in 1977. Since the discovery, we have not really known where exactly the signal originated from. There were several theories and we had an approximate idea. Now, a paper published by Alberto Caballero, a Habitable Exoplanet Hunting Project researcher, suggests the enigmatic alien signal originated from a potentially habitable star system, one that could have a planet where life exists.

On August 15, 1977, at 11:16 p.m., the Big Ear radio telescope received a radio signal of unknown origin. This signal is believed to have lasted 72 seconds, and it originated from the eastern part of the constellation Sagittarius. Its intensity was 30 times higher than the background noise.

According to the protocol used, this signal was not recorded but instead was registered by the observatory's computer on a section of continuous paper designed for this purpose.

The Big Ear telescope – which is no longer in function – was tasked with searching the cosmos for messages in the electromagnetic frequency band of 1420.4056 megahertz, produced by the element hydrogen.

A few days later, the young Ohio State University professor Jerry R. Ehman, who was volunteering on the SETI project by reviewing computer records, discovered the strongest anomalous signal ever detected by a radio telescope.

The signal was known as Wow! due to Ehman's annotation on the continuous paper, characterizing his surprise and emotion. The sequence of the said signal was: 6EQUJ5.

Decades later, researchers still have no idea where exactly it came from or what caused it, spawning a host of theories all along, from it being a pair of passing comets—which has since been debunked—to the ultimate proof that we are not alone in the universe.

Now, astronomer Alberto Caballero has searched data collected by the European Space Agency's Gaia space observatory to zero in on a candidate star system where



the signal could come from, as detailed in a new study published in the International Journal of Astrobiology.

The objective was to determine if there were any habitable star systems within the region where the Wow! signal came from, based on the assumption that "it came from a star system similar to ours."

Caballero managed to narrow down the search to a single Sun-like star called 2MASS 19281982-2640123, located 1,800 light-years away in the constellation Sagittarius. It is likely to have a broad habitable zone, and there could be a world similar to ours in orbit around it.

While it's certainly a bit of a stretch—Caballero makes some pretty broad assumptions to arrive at this candidate—other astronomers say he's not as crazy as he seems.

However, if we look at 2MASS

19281982-2640123 with our telescopes and detect a habitable planet from which the Wow! signal may have been emitted, it would take hundreds of years for our answer to arrive.

In the meantime, Caballero suggests looking for exoplanets and technosignatures – technological signs of extraterrestrial intelligence – in that system and in other candidates.

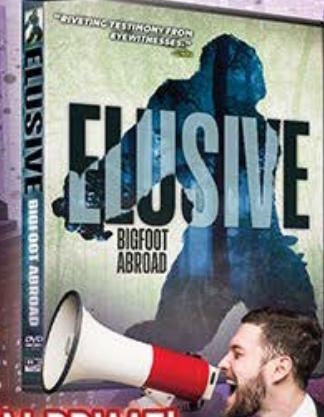
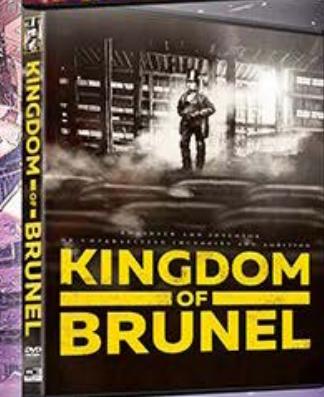
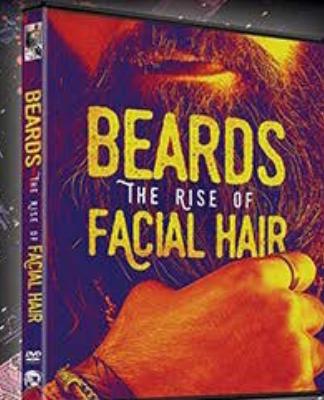
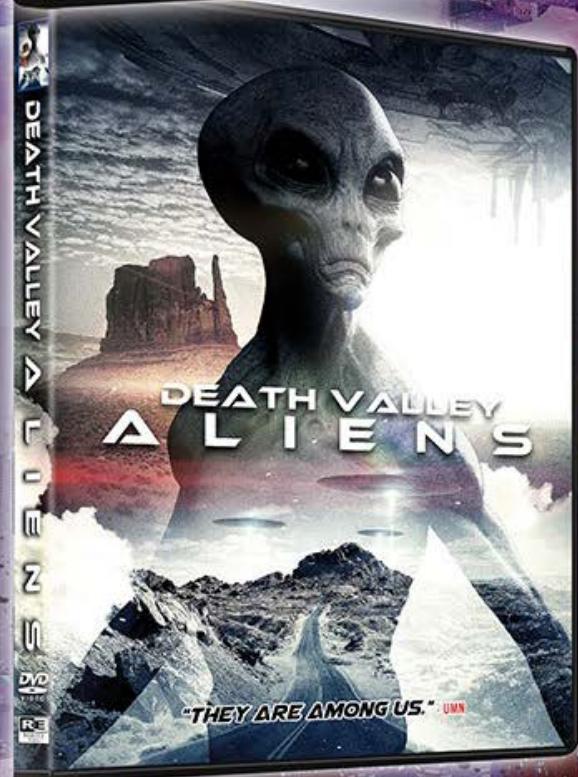
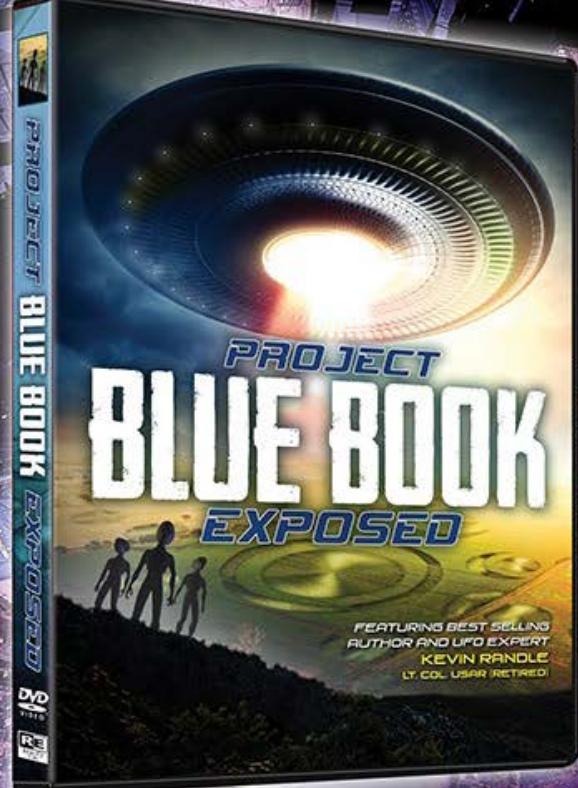
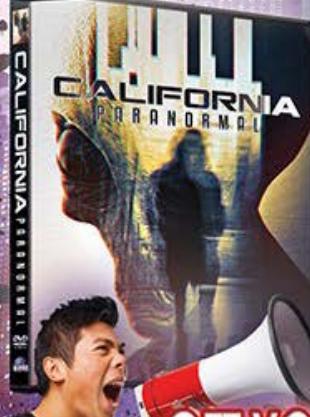
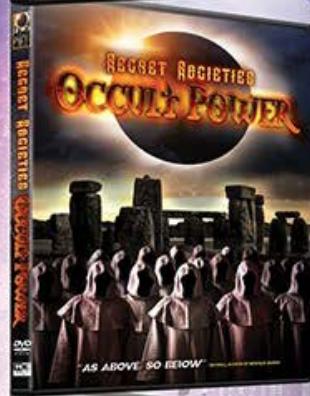
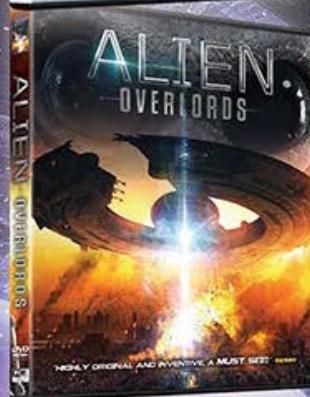
According to the American Astronomical Society's history, scientists have tried repeatedly to find follow-ups originating from the same place but have been unsuccessful.

This has led many experts to suggest that the Wow! Signal most likely originated from some kind of natural event and is not a call from advanced alien civilizations.

Previously, astronomers have suggested all kinds of theories to explain the origin of the Wow! signal. In an interview with "Centauri Dreams," plasma physicist James Benford explains his paper presented for publishing in the Journal Astrobiology and reveals why he believes there are arguments in favor of the Wow! signal being created by an alien craft.

“Decades later, researchers still have no idea where exactly it came from or what caused it, spawning a host of theories.”

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